FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

4 NOVEMBER 1983

Lebanon

Israeli Headquarters Bombing — An IDF spokesman cited by IDF Radio announced that the building housing the Israeli security forces in Tyre was bombed early on 4 November. The bombing was similar to earlier attacks on the U.S. and French forces in that a truck packed with explosives crashed through defenses to detonate near the building, AFP reported. In an anonymous telephone call, one of the groups that claimed responsibility for the Beirut bombings, the Islamic Jihad organization, claimed responsibility for the blast, which it said was in response to arrests made by Israeli security forces in southern Lebanon and Israeli threats to continue the occupation of Lebanon if the Geneva dialogue conference decides to revoke the Israel-Lebanese agreement, the agency added. The caller said the organization was prepared to send 2,000 "suicide volunteers" into southern Lebanon, adding that it is ready to strike "anywhere in the world" and that a "big surprise" from the organization could be expected "shortly."

Israeli Air Raid — Israeli Air Force planes attacked command posts and tank and artillery positions belonging to the Fatah dissident faction and the PFLP-General Command along the Beirut-Damascus highway on 4 November, according to an IDF spokesman cited by Jerusalem radio. The spokesman stated that the raid was in response to recent terrorist activities against Israeli forces in southern Lebanon culminating in the bombing of the Israeli headquarters in Tyre.

Jerusalem radio reported that the Tyre headquarters contained 60 soldiers and border police at the time of the blast, of whom 3 were killed, 25 wounded, and the remainder are missing. The Voice of Lebanon said the Israeli governor for the region was killed in the blast. In response to the bombing, Beirut radio stated, Israeli authorities imposed a 3-day curfew in Tyre and closed the Al-Awwali bridges. Meanwhile, according to Voice of Lebanon, Defense Minister Moshe Arens is inspecting the site of the blast.

Geneva Conference — The Geneva dialogue conference adopted a resolution calling upon the Lebanese president to "take the necessary measures" and "make the necessary international contacts" to end the Israeli occupation and ensure Lebanon's complete sovereignty and independence, conference spokesman Faruq Jabr told reporters in a statement on Beirut radio. Reacting to the resolution, Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt claimed that the Israeli-Lebanese agreement "is as good as canceled" in a comment to Jerusalem radio. In earlier discussions on 3 November, the conference reached a "decision in principle" to establish a "national unity government," according to KUNA, which hinged on whether a compromise could be found on the Lebanese-Israeli agreement.

During discussions on 3 November former Prime Minister Rashid Karami proposed freezing the Israeli-Lebanese agreement, Beirut Radio reported, while former President Camille Sham'un responded with a proposal to form a national reconciliation government that would study the matter. After considerable discussion, during which President Amin al-Jumayyil spoke on the agreement and its current status, former President Sulayman Franjiyah proposed the compromise that Al-Jumayyil be given full authority to decide on the agreement, the radio added. The conferees ultimately decided that the Dialogue Committee should discuss the issue at an evening meeting which the conference delegates would join after the committee members had agreed on a proposal.

President al-Jumayyil; National Salvation Front Leaders Franjiyah, Karami, and Junblatt; and Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri met after the full conference session to discuss the Lebanese-Israeli agreement, Beirut radio confirmed. Following this meeting Al-Jumayyil met with Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Saudi Minister of State Muhammad Ibrahim Mas'ud, and Phalangist leader Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil, the radio added.

PLO Affairs

North Lebanon Fighting — Attacks on positions around Tripoli and the Nahr al-Barid and Al-Baddawi camps held by supporters of PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat continued throughout 3 November and resumed on 4 November after an overnight lull in the fighting, Beirut radio reported. At least 100 were killed and over 170 wounded, according to Radio Monte Carlo.

During fighting on 3 November the Al-Baddawi camp "lost its military significance" after attacking Syrian forces gained control of the refinery area and dissident Palestinians secured Turbul Mountain, where the North Lebanon Voice of Palestine transmitter is located, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported. On the other hand, Voice of Lebanon reported that the two Palestinian camps are still being shelled heavily from Syrian-controlled territory, while the Syrians are using tanks and heavy weapons in fierce battles that are continuing on Turbul Mountain.

PLO information official in Tripoli Ahmad 'Abd ar-Rahman told KUNA that Syrian forces had shelled the Voice of Palestine radio, destroying the building housing the transmitter, but the damage was repaired and the radio resumed transmission "within a few hours." North Lebanon Voice of Palestine has not been heard since early on 3 November.

Citing PLO command communiques, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio reported that the attackers, composed of Syrian, Libyan, Palestinian dissident, PFLP-GC, pro-Syrian As-Sa'iqah, and Palestine Liberation Army (PLA)-Hittin forces, were being reinforced by Syrian and Libyan forces but that four detachments of Hittin forces had defected to the 'Arafat defenders. Voice of Lebanon said the Lebanese Islamic Unification Movement had also joined the pro-'Arafat forces. 'Abd ar-Rahman, in his statement to KUNA, maintained that both the DFLP and PFLP "denounced" the fighting and alleged that the As-Sa'iqah northern command and Palestine Liberation Front sided with 'Arafat.

A responsible Syrian source cited by Damascus television called allegations of Syrian involvement "regrettable" and noted that Syrian forces "are not a party to the clashes." The PFLP-DFLP joint command condemned the clashes, while a PFLP-GC spokesman in Damascus accused pro-'Arafat forces of opening fire on PFLP-GC positions, forcing the General Command to return fire, according to Radio Monte Carlo. A Fatah dissident general command statement cited by Damascus television asserted that the dissidents fired only in self-defense, and added that 'Arafat's appeals to "certain states" to end the fighting are useless as the dissidents have decided to "punish" him for his "massacres and political deviation."

Charging that his supporters had done their best to avoid clashes, 'Arafat appealed to "all friends and brothers" to intervene to stop "this new massacre" in urgent messages reported by Baghdad Voice of PLO. In an interview with Radio Monte Carlo, he called on Syrian President al-Asad to stop the fighting and, when questioned on whether he would leave Tripoli, invited the Syrians to "open the gate of Damascus" so he could "get out." However, according to KUNA, 'Arafat refused a Syrian offer of safe conduct from northern Lebanon.

Meanwhile, Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf told a press conference in Algiers, reported by Algiers radio, that "external interference" in Palestinian affairs had been "persistent" and called on "every Arab" to work to halt the attacks. Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid, PDRY President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, and YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih all telephoned 'Arafat with offers to mediate in the dispute, 'Abd ar-Rahman told KUNA.

Iran-Iraq War

Describing the latest offensive in the northern sector, Iranian military communiques broadcast by Tehran radio reported total Iranian gains around Panjwin of 16 villages and several strategic heights, including those directly to the west of Panjwin. The communiques also announced that four Iraqi aircraft were downed in the sector on 3 November while more that 1,200 Iraqis were killed or wounded. A military communique broadcast by Baghdad radio asserted that Iraqi forces have contained the Iranian offensive, adding that the Iraqis are mounting "determined counterattacks."

FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Middle East & Africa

Vol V No 215 *4 November 1983*

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

Fatah Dissident Spokesman on 4 Nov Israeli Raids *[Radio Monte Carlo]* ..... A 1
Materials on Fighting Near Tripoli, Lebanon ..... A 1
    Military Details, 'Arafat Appeal *[Baghdad Voice of PLO]* ..... A 1
    San'a' VOP on Fighting ..... A 2
    'Arafat Refuses Syrian Offer *[KUNA]* ..... A 2
    Fatah Dissidents' Statement *[Damascus TV]* ..... A 2
    Reaction in Damascus *[Radio Monte Carlo]* ..... A 3
    Khalaf, Hawatimah Comments *[Algiers]* ..... A 3
    Khalil Al-Wazir Statement *[Baghdad Voice of PLO]* ..... A 4
    'Arafat Spokesman Cited *[KUNA]* ..... A 4
    Baghdad PLO Commentary ..... A 5
    100 Killed; Battles Continue *[Radio Monte Carlo]* ..... A 5
    Beirut Radio Report ..... A 5
    Refugee Camps Urge Summit *[Amman AD-DUSTUR 4 Nov]* ..... A 6
Fatah Central Committee Meeting Delayed 1 Day *[INA]* ..... A 6
Cypriot Ship Unloads Arms off Tripoli 30 Oct *[Beirut AS-SAFIR 31 Oct]* ..... A 6
Fedayeen Operations in 'Occupied Territory' Reported *[Baghdad Voice of PLO]* ..... A 6

ARABIAN PENINSULA

GULF AFFAIRS

Qatar Minister, Bisharah on GCC Results ..... C 1

KUWAIT

Delegation Views Results of GCC Meeting ..... C 1
Defense Minister on GCC Military Cooperation *[AR-RAYAH]* ..... C 2
Interior Minister on Gulf Security Agreement ..... C 2
GDR Industry Minister Arrives on Visit ..... C 2

OMAN

Qabus Interview on Hormuz, Gulf Issues *[Kuwait ARAB TIMES 2 Nov]* ..... C 3
Foreign Minister Scheduled To Visit PDRY *[Kuwait AL-ANBA' 2 Nov]* ..... C 4

PDRY

Palestinians Urged To End Fighting ..... C 5
Chairman Receives Message From 'Arafat ..... C 5
Official Scores U.S. Action in Grenada ..... C 5

SAUDI ARABIA

Foreign Minister Returns From GCC Meeting ..... C 5
    Doha Press Conference ..... C 5
    Further Report ..... C 6

UAE

Minister of State Departs for Morocco 3 Nov ..... C 7
Iranian Vessel Makes Maiden Voyage to UAE *[KHALEEJ TIMES 3 Nov]* ..... C 7
Briefs: Foreign Companies Boycotted ..... C 7
Abu Dhabi Imports, Exports

EGYPT

Mubarak Interview in 5 Nov AT-TADAMUN ..... D 1
Foreign Ministry Source on Palestinian Clashes ..... D 8
AL-AHRAM Views U.S. Policy in Lebanon *[28 Oct]* ..... D 8

IRAQ

Commander Reports 30,000 Iranian Casualties ..... E 1
Communique No 1,268 ..... E 1
Commander Updates Developments ..... E 2
ATH-THAWRAH on Offensive ..... E 2
Deputy Prime Minister Receives YAR Minister ..... E 2
Jordanian, GDR Ministers Conclude Visits ..... E 2
UN Official Speaks on Israeli Attack on Reactor ..... E 3

JORDAN

King Husayn Cables Arab Leaders on Tripoli War ..... F 1
Foreign Ministry Statement on Iraq-Iran War ..... F 1
Klibi Arrives in Amman; Meets With Al-Qasim ..... F 1
Britain's Richard Luce Arrives on Visit 3 Nov ..... F 2
Prince Hasan Receives Luce ..... F 2

LEBANON

Israelis Retaliate for Attack on Center 4 Nov ..... G 1
Explosion 'Rocked' Tyre ..... G 1
Booby-Trapped Car Caused Explosion ..... G 1
Military Center Completely Destroyed ..... G 1
Israeli Officers, Governor Killed ..... G 1
Israelis Impose Curfew ..... G 1
'Islamic Jihad' Claims Credit ..... G 1
KUNA: 150 Dead, Wounded ..... G 2
Moshe Arens Inspects Site ..... G 2
VOL on Rescue Operations ..... G 2
Israeli 'Squadrons' Attack Bhamdun ..... G 2
Syrian Emplacements Destroyed ..... G 2
RFL on Israeli Raids ..... G 2
Beirut Reports 50 Killed ..... G 2
AFP on Tyre Fatalities ..... G 2
Al-Jumayyil Briefs Dialogue Session *[Radio Free Lebanon]* ..... G 3
Continuing Reportage on Geneva Conference ..... G 3
Session Considers 3 Proposals ..... G 3
Delegation Heads Meet Separately ..... G 3
Spokesman on May Accord ..... G 3
Conference Reopens, Discusses Tyre ..... G 4
8th Session Ends ..... G 4
Junblatt Interviewed on Geneva Conference Problems *[LA REPUBBLICA 3 Nov]* ..... G 4
Security Arrangements Committee Views Cease-Fire ..... G 5
AS-SIYASAH on Israeli Measures in South *[2 Nov]* ..... G 5
Italian President Arrives in Beirut 4 Nov ..... G 5
Sa'd Haddad Speech on Situation in South ..... G 6

SYRIA

'Responsible Source' Denies Role in Tripoli Combat ..... H 1
Damascus Radio Reports 4 Nov Tyre Explosion ..... H 1
  Israeli Raids Reported ..... H 1
Envoy in Paris Rejects Responsibilitiy for Tyre Attack ..... H 2
Klibi Confers With Al-Asad; Departs 3 Nov ..... H 2
Continued Reportage on Lebanese Geneva Conference ..... H 2
  5th Session Reported ..... H 2
  Fairbanks' 'Interference' Cited ..... H 2
  AL-BA'TH on Geneva Discussions ..... H 2
  Lebanon's Arabism Its Salvation ..... H 3
Al-Asad Receives Romania's Oprea 3 Nov ..... H 4

ISRAEL

Explosion Rocks IDF Buildings in Lebanon ..... I 1
  Further Details ..... I 1
  Tyre 'Under Siege' ..... I 1
  Al-Awwali Bridge Closed ..... I 1
  Commander Says Bridges Open ..... I 1
  IDF Spokesman Announcement ..... I 1
  Casualty Figures ..... I 1
  14 Reported Dead ..... I 2
  Commander on Rescue Operations ..... I 2
  Air Force Attacks ..... I 2
  IDF Spokesman Confirmation ..... I 2
  Syrian Target Not Hit ..... I 2
  More Air Raids ..... I 2
Officials Interviewed on Explosion in Tyre ..... I 2
  Arens Interview ..... I 2
  Moshe Levi Comments ..... I 3
  Burg Reaction ..... I 4
  Moda'i Remarks ..... I 4
  'No Official Comment' ..... I 4
  Cabinet To Discuss Tyre ..... I 5
  Minister Ne'eman Interview ..... I 5
  Ambassador to France Comments *[AFP]* ..... I 5
'Compromise Proposal' Reported From Geneva ..... I 6
  Junblatt Says Accord Canceled ..... I 6
Eagleburger Briefed on Military, Security Affairs ..... I 6
  'Sharply' Condemns Tyre Incident ..... I 7
Concern About U.S. Change on Lebanon Noted ..... I 7
Visit of UK's Luce Ends on 'Unpleasant' Note *[THE JERUSALEM POST 4 Nov]* ..... I 7

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

Foreign Minister Receives Fatah's Salah Khalaf ..... Q 1
Foreign Ministry Issues Statement on Palestinian Unity ..... Q 1
DFLP Secretary General Hawatimah Arrives for Visit ..... Q 1

LIBYA

JANA on Scoon's Severance of Diplomatic Relations ..... Q 1

MOROCCO

UN Committee Debates Morocco-Sahara Issue ..... Q 1

LE MONDE Ponders Possible Shape of Government *[26 Oct]* Q 1

SUDAN

Vice President Warns Libya of Plotting Q 2
MENA Reports Ghali's Press Conference Q 2
SSU, Somali Socialist Delegation Hold Talks Q 3

TUNISIA

President Receives U.S. Defense Official Q 3
Mzali Interviewed on Franco-Tunisian Relations *[LE MONDE 27 Oct]* Q 3
Es-Sebsi on Sahara, Palestine Issues *[LE MONDE 27 Oct]* Q 4

EAST AFRICA

ETHIOPIA

TPLF Claims Killing 20 Government Soldiers *[Voice of Broad Masses]* R 1
EPLF Claim 6 Government Military Officers Killed *[Voice of Tigre Revolution]* R 1

KENYA

Air Force Officer Wins Appeal in Coup Court Case *[DAILY NATION 3 Nov]* R 1

SEYCHELLES

Mancham Appeals to Reagan for 'Rescue Operation' *[SAPA]* R 1

SOMALIA

Egyptian Trade Agreement Signed 3 November R 1
WSLF Fighters Review Strategy, Successes R 2

UGANDA

Chief of Staff Says Banditry No Problem R 2
Memorandum of Understanding on FRG Aid Signed R 3

WEST AFRICA

GHANA

Spain Donates 2500 Tons of Wheat to Country T 1
Enin Says Statement Due on Opening Universities T 1
Three Cape Coast WDC Members Suspended T 1
62 Die From Yellow Fever in Northern Region T 1

MALI

President Traore Ends Visit to Guinea-Bissau T 1
PCT Delegation Ends Visit; Protocol Signed T 2

SENEGAL

President Diouf Interviewed on Algiers Visit *[EL MOUDJAHID 18 Oct]* T 2
Mali's President Traore Arrives in Dakar T 3
Niasse Honors Outgoing PLO Envoy Khalil T 4

UPPER VOLTA

Cuban Envoy Condemns U.S. on Grenada ..... T 4
Albanian Ambassador Presents Credentials ..... T 4
No Yellow Fever Cases Reported in Ouagadougou ..... T 5

SOUTHERN AFRICA

ANGOLA

FAPLA Kills 37 UNITA 'Bandits' in 4 Provinces ..... U 1
    'Hundreds' UNITA Members Killed ..... U 1
    FAPLA Operations in Huambo ..... U 1
UNITA Infiltrator Presented to Press in Huambo ..... U 1
Curfew Imposed on Bie, Huambo Provinces ..... U 2
Voice of Resistance Reports UNITA Operations ..... U 2
    16-30 September ..... U 2
    1-15 October ..... U 2
Giraul River Bridge Rebuilt With Soviet Aid ..... U 3
Cabinda Border Troops Hold 407 for Smuggling ..... U 3

BOTSWANA

President Masire To Visit PRC, Attend Delhi Meeting ..... U 4

MADAGASCAR

AKFM Congress Opens With Address by President ..... U 4
    Resolutions Presented ..... U 4

MOZAMBIQUE

Machel Sends Condolences Message to Andropov ..... U 4
Machel Holds Talks With Mugabe in Maputo 2 Nov ..... U 5
    PANA Reports Further Details ..... U 5
Regional Media Directors Meeting Opens in Maputo ..... U 5
    Cooperation Urged ..... U 6
    Journalists Warned ..... U 6
    Meeting Ends ..... U 6
Regional Trade, Transportation Meeting Held ..... U 6
    Cooperation Agreements Signed ..... U 7

SOUTH AFRICA

2 Nov Referendum Voting Results Reported ..... U 7
    Port Elizabeth, Kroonstad ..... U 7
    Durban, Germiston ..... U 8
    Roodepoort, George ..... U 8
    'No' Vote in Pietersburg ..... U 8
    'Yes' Vote in 13 Areas ..... U 9
Prime Minister Holds Press Conference on Referendum ..... U 9
Opposition Leaders Comment on Referendum Outcome ..... U 12
    Further Reaction ..... U 12

SWAZILAND

Bhekimpi Commends Nation on Election Success ..... U 12
Group Jailed for Trying To Disrupt Elections *[THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND 3 Nov]* ..... U 12

ZIMBABWE

Mugabe Returns From Mozambique Visit 2 Nov .... U 13
Mugabe Discloses Reasons for Muzorewa Arrest .... U 13
ZANU-PF Supporters Applaud Muzorewa Arrest .... U 13
    Further Support Demonstration *[SAPA]* .... U 13
UK Minister in Harare Comments on Cuban Withdrawal *[SAPA]* .... U 13

Fatah Dissident Spokesman on 4 Nov Israeli Raids

JN041229 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1210 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] An urgent cable from Damascus says that Mahmud al-Labadi, spokesman for the Fatah opposition movement, has stated that the Israeli raids were aimed at Palestinian positions in the Sawfar, Bahamdun, and 'Alayh areas. Al-Labadi added that the Israeli raids came as a reply to the Tyre operation.

Materials on Fighting Near Tripoli, Lebanon

Military Details, 'Arafat Appeal

JN031719 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] The following are details of the military and political situation since dawn and until the afternoon hours:

The Syrian and Libyan forces, dissident elements, the groups of Jibril and As-Sa'iqah, and the Hittin forces of the Palestinian Liberation Army [PLA], which are under Syrian command, began at dawn concentrated fire on Al-Baddawi and Nahr al-Barid camps, the eastern part of Tripoli, and the Al-Mina' area as a prelude to their all-out attack. Our sources in northern Lebanon said that all types of heavy artillery, rockets, and tank guns were used in the heavy shelling and that continuous battles raged on all axes.

At 0600 a force of Syrian and Libyan tanks and armored cars advanced from Syrian positions in the Qasr ad-Duwayhi and 'Adawi areas in the direction of the town of Al-Minyah. Our forces clashed with the advancing tanks and armored cars and fought honorably in defense of the independent Palestinian decisionmaking and the Palestinian revolution and its legitimacy against the plotters and their agents. The Syrian and Libyan artillery and rocket shelling covered the whole region — Tripoli, Al-Mina', the Nahr al-Barid and Al-Baddawi camps, and Mount Turbul.

A subsequent communique issued by the command of the Palestinian revolution in northern Lebanon at 0700 this morning said: The Syrian forces pushed a new tank battalion to reinforce their attack on the Qasr ad-Duwayhi-Al-Minya area. At the same time, it pushed another battalion in the direction of Mount Turbul from the direction of Al-Haykaliyah and 'Alma. Artillery and rocket shelling then intensifed on Al-Baddawi, Nahr al-Barid, Al-Minyah, and Mount Turbul. Our forces engaged these new reinforcements of the Syrian and Libyan forces and their agents.

In a subsequent development, the Syrian and Libyan forces and the groups under their command heavily shelled the oil refinery near the port of Tripoli in northern Lebanon. Rockets hit two oil tanks setting them on fire. Fires spread to the homes of Lebanese and Palestinian citizens in Tripoli, Al-Baddawi, and Nahr al-Barid.

At 0900 a communique issued by the Palestinian revolution command in northern Lebanon said that fierce battles raged on the eastern and southern slopes of Mount Turbul between the Syrian and Libyan forces and their agents on the one hand and the Palestinian revolution forces on the other. At the same time, there was a continuous flow of tank reinforcements for the Syrian forces in the direction of Mount Turbul, 'Awkar, and 'Alma under heavy artillery cover which reached as far as Tall an-Namlah and also hit Al-Baddawi and Nahr al-Barid. Columns of smoke rising from the fires in the oil tanks could be seen from long distances. At 1015 the Syrian and Libyan forces sent new reinforcements to tighten the siege on the Nahr al-Barid and Al-Baddawi camps. They then opened heavy shelling which preceded their attack on Al-Muhammarah. The heroes of the Palestinian revolution succeeded in checking this advance. Clashes continued with all types of weapons. At the same time, our forces checked the advance of the Syrian forces in the direction of (Bihnin) this morning. At 1100 fierce battles continued in the Mount Turbul area. In view of the heroic resistance put up by the Palestinian fighters, the Syrian forces brought in units of special forces and tanks which again shelled the Al-Baddawi and Nahr al-Barid camps.

Another communique issued by the Palestinian revolution forces command in northern Lebanon stated that the Syrian and Libyan forces and their agents concentrated their shelling at noon today on the oil tanks near the city of Tripoli. Sources in the Palestinian revolution command said a short while ago that the situation until noon today was characterized by the intensification of battles on all axes. Syrian and Libyan artilelry and rocket shelling was concentrated on Mount Turbul, Al-Baddawi and Nahr al-Barid, Al-Minyah, and Al-Mina'. The sources said that shells fell at the rate of 70 per minute on the positions of the Palestinian revolution and the camps of the Palestinian people. Fierce battles are also occuring on the 'Alma and Turbul axes as Syrian forces are trying to advance in the direction of the Palestinian camps and Turbul under heavy artillery and rocket fire which caused heavy losses in Tripoli, in the Palestinian camps, and also fires in the oil refinery.

Reports from northern Lebanon said that four detachments of the Hittin forces of the PLA have joined the Palestinian revolution forces. They are now fighting on the first defense line to check the barbaric Syrian-Libyan aggression against the Palestinian revolution and its independent decisionmaking and legitimacy and against the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples. Revolution until victory, God willing!

On the political level, the Palestinian leadership acted quickly to confront the Syrian-Libyan attack on the Palestinian revolution. Brother Commander Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] sent urgent messages to the heads of the Arab and Islamic states and the nonaligned countries in which he said: At dawn today, 3 November 1983, the Syrian forces opened artillery, rocket, and tank fire in the direction of Al-Minyah, the Nahr al-Barid and Al-Baddawi camps, the city of Tripoli, and the Al-Mina' area in northern Lebanon. They then began an attack from their positions on several axes in the direction of Al-Minyah and the Nahr al-Barid and Al-Baddawi camps.

Those who participated in this armored attack, which was backed by Syrian tanks, were Libyan forces under Syrian command which were brought from Al-Biqa' more than 2 weeks ago, some units of the Hittin forces of the PLA which are in Syria and under Syrian command, and armed groups of Ahmad Jibril, As-Sa'iqah, and the dissidents. These Palestinian elements are being used as a cover for this treacherous attack on the city of Tripoli, the Lebanese villages, and the Nahr al-Barid and Al-Baddawi camps.

The deterioration of the situation in such a serious manner places everyone before their Arab, national, and friendly responsibilities to avert new massacres against the innocent Palestinians and Lebanese. The blood of Sabra and Shatila has not yet dried and the Tall az-Za'tar massacre is still being recalled. Everyone knows that we have exerted and are still exerting every effort to put an end to this conflict with fraternal Syria. We have tried our best to avoid any clash with the fraternal Syrian Army throughout the past 6 months out of our belief that the rifles — all rifles — must be directed against the Zionist enemy and the imperialist forces supporting it. Many brothers and friends have contributed to these efforts.

We have withdrawn from our positions in Al-Biqa', Ba'labakk, and the mountain under pressure from Syrian arms and in accordance with Syrian orders to spare bloodshed. These forces held us to our camps in the north and Tripoli. Unfortunately, there is a determination to complete what Israel and the United States could not complete last year in Beirut against our struggling people.

We are defending with all courage, honor, and faith our people, revolution, and independent political decisionmaking, which was entrusted to us by our people. In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate, to those against whom war is made, permission is given to fight, because they are wronged; and verily God is most powerful for their aid. [Koranic verse]

From this place, I call upon you and all friends and brothers to immediately intervene to stop this new massacre against our people and revolution. Revolution until victory!

Tripoli, 3 November 1983

[Signed] Yasir 'Arafat, commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee

San'a' VOP on Fighting

GF031728 San'a' Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] O brothers, here is the situation that prevailed this aftereck hyphenationnoon: The battles are still raging on all the axes as artillery shelling and rockets from Syrian batteries and rocket launchers continue. The Al-Barid River, Al-Baddawi, Mina', and Turbul camps are exposed to a hundred shells a minute. Shelling and attacks are concentrated on Mount Turbul from all axes. Our estimations are that there are between 140-150 guns being used in addition to the rocket launchers. New groups of the Hittin forces have arrived and are fighting alongside our forces on the frontlines. A third oil refinery was hit and set ablaze.

Meanwhile, a Palestinian source indicated that the Voice of Palestine, the voice of the Palestinian revolution, is broadcasting its news regularly on the usual frequency from the Tripoli region.

Our assessment of the forces which are carrying out the shelling is as follows: a Syrian armored brigade; an artillery and rocket brigade; two battalions of tanks and infantry for [word indistinct]; several forces belonging to the Hittin; the battalions numbered 11, 12, and 15; in addition to the groups of the dissidents, of Jibril, and of Syria's As-Sa'iqah. Civilian casulaties in the camps are high, as they are in the city of Tripoli and Mina'.

Revolution until Victory!

'Arafat Refuses Syrian Offer

LD031753 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1620 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Excerpts] London, 3 Nov (KUNA) — In two separate interviews published here today, PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat called on British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher "to use her power to get a new peace initiative in the Middle East to reduce the tragedy of the Palestinians," while at the same he refused a Syrian offer of safe conduct from northern Lebanon.

Meanwhile, the London-based Saudi paper *AL-MAJALLAH* quoted informed Arab sources as saying that 'Arafat has turned down the Syrian arrangements for a safe conduct from Tripoli in northern Lebanon. *AL-MAJALLAH* said that the brother of the Syrian president, Colonel Rif'at al-Asad, sent a military envoy to Tripoli to accompany 'Arafat from there to a military airfield in Damascus to board a special aircraft for another unnamed Arab capital.

The same sources said that the Palestinian leader sent a written message to the commander of the defense detachments, Dr Rif'at al-Asad, explaining that he does not wish to leave Tripoli at the moment. According to *AL-MAJALLAH*, 'Arafat promised to consider the Syrian proposal at an appropriate time later.

Fatah Dissidents' Statement

JN031928 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1840 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] The General Command of the Al-'Asifah forces has issued a statement on the fighting started today by Yasir 'Arafat's clique in Tripoli, northern Lebanon, on the orders of 'Arafat. An official spokesman of the command said that the deviationist forces of Yasir 'Arafat this morning opened artillery and rocket fire on the positions of the Al-'Asifah and other Palestinian forces in the Tripoli area in northern Lebanon. The spokesman added in the statement that was released today that the Al-'Asifah forces were forced to respond in self-defense and in defense of other Palestinian positions.

He said that Al-'Asifah tried hard to achieve a cease-fire with the other side to protect the sons of the Palestinian people in the camps and the positions, but 'Arafat insisted on spilling Palestinian blood and forced his clique to continue the battle.

The spokesman announced that many of the leaders of the Palestinian groups in the Tripoli camps have joined the Al-'Asifah forces after disobeying 'Arafat's orders. He said that a state of resentment against the practices of 'Arafat and his men now prevails in the Palestinian camps in northern Lebanon. This state, he added, has come as a rejection of the method of buffonery and lies used daily by 'Arafat to justify his exit from Tripoli.

The spokesman concluded his statement by saying that these methods will be of no use in changing the current situation in the field. It is also no use for 'Arafat to resort to the method of appealing to certain states, because the Palestinian people and their armed forces have decided to punish 'Arafat for the massacres and political deviation he committed against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples.

Reaction in Damascus

JN031923 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Dispatch from Louis Faris, Radio Monte Carlo correspondent in Damascus on 3 November — recorded]

[Excerpts] The official spokesman of the anti-'Arafat forces within the Fatah movement has issued a statement accusing the pro-'Arafat forces of shelling the opposition forces' position with rockets and artillery at dawn today and of attempting to advance toward them, thus forcing the opposition forces to answer the fire in self-defense.

The PFLP-GC official spokesman leveled a similar accusation, saying that pro-'Arafat forces at dawn today opened heavy and medium fire on PFLP-GC positions. The fire was so concentrated that the shells were falling at the rate of three every minute. This sudden shelling was accompanied by attempts to advance, thus forcing the PFLP-GC forces to answer the fire and confront and beat back the attacking forces, which they were able to do after some of the attacking forces joined the PFLP-GC forces.

The spokesman accused 'Arafat of attempting to escalate the explosive security situation in order to affect the current Geneva negotiations, confuse the Lebanese National Salvation Front's leaders, and weaken their position. The spokesman called on the Lebanese Nationalist Movement leaders in Tripoli to be alert and fully prepared for all eventualities.

The Syrian media completely ignored all of the reports related to the fighting. The media highlighted Hafiz al-Asad's meeting with Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi at which they discussed the holding of the forthcoming Arab summit in Riyadh. It had been announced earlier that Syria wanted this summit to be held as scheduled in Riyadh.

Khalaf, Hawatimah Comments

LD032122 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 3 nov 83

[Excerpt] Ladies and gentlemen, we return to the subject of the Palestinian issue. We present to you, as promised, the two statements made by Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf] and Nayif Hawatimah in Algiers this evening.

Fatah Central Committee member Abu Iyad held a press conference in which he talked about the tragic situation in Lebanon. He reminded people of the 16th session of the PNC which was convened in Algiers, and which proved the unity and solidarity of the Palestinian people and leadership. He said in particular:

[Begin Khalaf recording] This morning there was an attack on tripoli and on the Nahr Al-Barid and Al-Baddawi camps. This is the result of years of struggle [word indistinct] about the PLO, its unity and legitimacy, and about Arab interference in it. In fact, since the Algiers conference — a conference which proved Palestinian democracy to the world — we have been saying that the existence or nonexistence of any Palestinian leader or leadership is subject to the Palestinian people's will. This has been the focus of struggle [word indistinct] since the PNC and up to now. It is a struggle [words indistinct] we have tried our utmost and (?asked for mediation from all the Arab brothers), perhaps Algiers had a big role in good and extensive mediations for the removal of Arab differences, and in particular Palestinian [word indistinct] However, there seem to be those who try by all means to prevent Palestinians from having their freedom in decision-making, and in their internal affairs. This interference has been persistant. In the final analysis it does not serve the interest of Palestine or the Palestine issue, but it serves the narrow and regional interests of some Arab countries.

On this basis we were surprised today by the attack which aimed at shedding the innocent blood of Palestinians and Lebanese. More than 140 missile launchers are pounding the camps and [word indistinct]. We therefore urge every Arab and all our brothers and friends in the world to prevent this attack and to prevent more blood being shed in the wrong place. We are confident that the people of Algeria and the revolution of the 1.5 million martyrs is bound to be with the Palestinian people and the Palestinian revolution, now as in the past. [end recording]

Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the Popular Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PDFLP), condemned the fighting in Tripoli, Lebanon, and the deterioration of relations between the Palestinian resistance and some Arab countries in the region. He answered the following question:

Comrade Nayif, news agencies report today that there is fighting in Tripoli. What is the truth about these reports?

[Begin Hawatimah recording] Regarding the news agency reports, We in the PDFLP and on the basis of our fundamental position in the ranks of our people, revolution, and the PLO have been regularly announcing that we are against any kind of inter-Palestinian fighting. We have regularly insisted on the need for unity of stand among those allies against the main [word indistinct] with our enemy represented in the U.S. forces occupying Lebanese territory and the Israeli forces occupying the whole of southern Lebanon, against our common enemy represented in the U.S. capitulatory solutions such as Camp David, the Reagan plan, and the Israeli-Lebanese-Phalangist and U.S. agreement.

It is sad that what is taking place is a kind of self-destruction of our Palestinian forces while every drop of blood, every bullet, and every effort should be directed against our common enemy — U.S. liquidatory and capitulatory solutions, expansionist and Zionist Israel, and the reactionary [word indistinct] which tries to (?usurp) the rights of the Palestinian people — the right to self-determination, to return and to establish their independent state, and the right of the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of this people. [end recording]

Khalil Al-Wazir Statement

JN031603 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1545 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] In Kuwait, the Fatah Information Bureau has released a statement by Brother Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, in which he said that all the efforts that have been exerted with the Syrian authorities have not achieved any results because of Syrian insistence on containing and striking at the revolution and usurping its decisionmaking. He said that the shelling to which the Palestinian camps and nearby Lebanese areas are exposed is the result of a Syrian decision under a false disguise.

Abu Jihad added: The shelling of the homes of our sons and people originates from Syrian areas. The Syrian forces have massed all types of concentrations to besiege the north. The Syrian forces include Palestinian groups which have betrayed their own people to the point of shelling the camps with heavy artillery. Brother Abu Jihad said: These forces have been withdrawn from the areas of contact with the Zionist enemy to besiege the Palestinian camps in northern Lebanon.

Referring to Brother Khalid al-Hasan's meetings with Syrian officials, Brother Abu Jihad said: Unfortunately, these meetings have not achieved the desired results. Proof of this is the continuation of the siege and the shelling of our camps.

'Arafat Spokesman Cited

LD032132 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 2015 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] Kuwait, 3 Nov (KUNA) — In a telephone contact KUNA made tonight with Ahmad 'Abd ar-Rahman, the Palestinian information official at the Tripoli headquarters of Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat, he said that the overall concentrated attack against the Al-Baddawi and Nahr al-Barid Palestinian camps has continued now for 14 hours. 'Abd ar-Rahman added that the artillery and rocket bombardment against these two camps, which are situated in northern Lebanon, has so far caused over 60 martyrs and injured 70 others. This is in addition to those killed and wounded as a result of the bombardment of the town of Tripoli.

The spokesman disclosed that the ship which brought arms to Fatah and its Lebanese supporters at Tripoli harbor recently was an Algerian ship and not Egyptian, as was reported.

'Abd ar-Rahman also said that Algerian President Chedli Bendjedid, PDRY President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, and YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih have all telephoned 'Arafat offering to mediate to end the fighting.

'Abd ar-Rahman added that the Syrian Army began its offensive at 0500 today using artillery and rocket fire against the two camps and the positions defending them. Tank battalions also took part in the offensive and tried to advance toward the medium-sized Jabal Turbul mountain, which overlooks the entire area. The Palestinian official pointed out that the defenders of the camps have so far succeeded in repelling the offensive. He pointed out also that the Syrian forces bombarded the Voice of Palestine radio and destroyed its transmission building, "but we managed to repair the damage and resume transmission within a few hours."

He described the offensive as an "abominable crime" and said that it is aimed at "imposing the agreement reached with the United States over Lebanon and the whole of the Middle East." He urged the Arab nation to "act to check the massacre of the Palestinian people and the destruction of their camps." 'Abd ar-Rahman said that the Palestinian people will not bow their heads or kneel before any force, however mighty and oppressive."

He said that the PFLP and the DFLP have both denounced the fratricide and said they would consider anyone firing on the camps to be a traitor. He also said that the Northern command of the As-Sa'iqah organization and the PLF, with all their fighters and cadres, have so far sided with Fatah.

Asked if 'Arafat had contemplated sending a delegation to Damascus for negotiations, 'Abd ar-Rahman said that Khalid al-Hasan held talks in Damascus for 10 days and it was expected that his talks would end with a positive Syrian attitude, but "the reply was the attack to which the camps are being exposed."

Asked if 'Arafat will agree to leave Tripoli to put an end to the conflict, 'Abd ar-Rahman said: "Abu 'Ammar is in Tripoli because there is a threat to his people and their revolution and by virtue of his position as general commander of the Palestinian revolution and leader of the Palestinian people. His place at the time of danger is naturally in the trenches with the fighters. Abu 'Ammar said today: 'It is a great honor for me to be among my brothers and kinsmen as they face the danger. This is my natural place.'"

He described the current offensive as "intensive and continuous and persistent. We note that the attackers are determined to continue their offensive despite our total capability to defend ourselves." He added that the artillery fire has not ceased on any of the fighting axes which extend from (Al-Karmaliyah) to Jabal Turbul, from Jabal Turbul to Adwar, and from Al-Maniyah to Nahr al-Barid. He pointed out that thick smoke has poured from the fire at the oil depots north of Tripoli and the smoke clouds have covered the sky, theatening to poison the people in adjoining areas.

In conclusion, 'Abd ar-Rahman said: "What saddens and hurts us now that we are besieged at the camps of Al-Baddawi, Nahr al-Barid, and Tripoli is that the only thing we have on our minds and recall is our siege at the hands of Sharon in Beirut. This should shake the conscience of every Arab so that the Palestinian people will not be massacred once at the hands of Sharon and again at the hands of Arab rulers."

Baghdad PLO Commentary

JN032046 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1638 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Thus the Syrian attack has begun, and eventually the Damascus regime will decide to militarily liquidate the Palestinian revolution in Tripoli and northern Lebanon. The Zionist enemy's attack on Beirut has begun, but it is in Tripoli this time, with the hands of Hafiz al-Asad's regime. We can therefore simply say that there is a real U.S.-Syrian-Israeli agreement on the Lebanese situation and the Syrian role in Lebanon and the region.

The Zionist enemy can now relax in Palestine, Lebanon, and the Golan. The Zionist enemy can also celebrate and exchange toasts at the expense of Lebanese and Palestinian blood and in accordance with Hafiz al-Asad's desire, which is at the expense of the Syrian soldiers. The United States also can relax in the region, because it has finally revealed its tool in Damascus. This tool has begun to implement its task and the task of the United States and the Zionist enemy — a task that is represented by the liquidation of the last nucleus of national and pan-Arab struggle against the enemies of the homeland and the Arab nation. Thus a new massacre of the Palestinian people at the hands of the Syrian rulers has begun. The massacre is also aimed at the lofty sons of Lebanon and the sons of the Syrian people, who are being pushed by the regime into the fires of the battle in Tripoli. Hafiz al-Asad does not care who the targets of the massacre will be, because murderers do not care about bloodshed; they like it and live on it.

But, today, a new epic of the Palestinian people through their heroic and militant history is taking place — an epic that includes revolutionary brilliance as well as grief. The hero Palestinian fighters in Beirut used to smile as they opened fire because they were fighting against their basic enemy. But today they are defending their revolution bitterly, because they are firing on soldiers whom they expect to be in their trench and martyred by bullets and rockets which they expect to be directed against the enemy. But the Palestinian fighter in Tripoli, Al-Barid, and Al-Baddawi says it is all right because it is the fighter's fate in the Arab region to face his brothers as if they are his enemies and to bitterly fight his brothers and shed his own blood and theirs. It is all right because first priority is given to the revolution, the people, the question, and the future. It is all right because we have expected this and we must face our fate. The battle, the massacre, the epic, and heroism have begun as if the Palestinian chronology must repeat and entrench itself. The Israeli invasion of Lebanon took place on the day which marked the Arabs' defeat on 5 June, and the Syrian attack on Tripoli began on the next day which marked the anniversary of the Balfour Declaration.

Is this Reagan's declaration or Hafiz al-Asad's? It will be neither. It is your declaration, O hero people, the declaration of the hero leader Abu 'Ammar, a declaration to achieve victory.

100 Killed; Battles Continue

JN040730 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0700 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] Press correspondents in northern Lebanon said that the fierce battles which began at dawn yesterday led to the death of at least 100 persons and the injury of another 170.

A Palestinian military spokesman in Tripoli announced this morning that battles resumed at dawn today. He added that a fierce battle has been raging on since dawn on Jabal Turbul between the Palestinian forces and Syrian-Libyan tanks. He said that these tanks are trying to advance to the southern and western areas of Jabal Turbul, but the Palestinian forces managed to stop their advance after destroying one tank and seizing another.

He indicated that Syrian forces, in cooperation with the dissidents, have been shelling the Al-Baddawi camp since 0600 today.

Beirut Radio Report

NC040750 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Telephone Dispatch by radio correspondent in Tripoli — recorded]

[Excerpt] The artillery and rocket shelling resumed at 0600 today after a calm but extremely tense night interspersed by clashes with light and medium-caliber weapons. Intermittent shelling began at 0600 but became violent at 0700. The shelling has continued intermittently up to the time this newscast was prepared. The shelling is centered around the Al-Baddawi camp and the western slope of Jabal Turbul as well as in some areas in Tripoli, Al-Kurah, and Sir ad-Dinniyah. The number of casualties, according to security sources, is very high, but no pecise figure is available because of communication difficulties.

Regarding the Tripoli oil installations, the fire in one of the oil tanks is still raging, and black clouds cover Tripoli and the vicinity. The fire is still raging despite the intensive efforts being made to extinguish it.

Public services in the north are completely paralyzed. Armed men can be seen in various parts of Tripoli.

Refugee Camps Urge Summit

JN040820 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 4 Nov 83 p 1

[Text] Amman, *AD-DUSTUR* — The Palestinian refugee camps in Jordan have appealed to all Arab leaders and the Arab League secretary general to hold an urgent summit conference to stop the massacre perpetrated against the Lebanese and Palestinian people in Tripoli. The refugee camps appealed to Arab leaders in the name of human sanctities and the aspirations of Palestinian children to move quickly to stop the massacre perpetrated by the Syrian regime.

Fatah Central Committee Meeting Delayed 1 Day

JN041141 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1110 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] Tunis, 4 Nov (INA) — It has been learned here that the emergency Fatah Central Committee meeting scheduled to be held today has been postponed until tomorrow. A responsible Palestinian source told the INA correspondent that the meeting was postponed to give Khalid al-Hasan and Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad, a chance to arrive in Tunis and take part in the meetings. Both Palestinian officials are expected to arrive in Tunis later today.

Cypriot Ship Unloads Arms off Tripoli 30 Oct

NC021050 Beirut AS-SAFIR in Arabic 31 Oct 83 p 4

[Excerpt] Security reports received from the north note that the Cypriot ship (Emer Gleener) anchored off the Tripoli port at 0330 yesterday. The ship unloaded its cargo of heavy weapons and crates of ammunition at 0600 under the protection of armed groups. The cargo was then transported to areas outside Tripoli.

Fedayeen Operations in 'Occupied Territory' Reported

JN031851 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] In the occupied territories, the popular Palestinian uprising against the Zionist occupation and against the attempts to strike at the Palestinian revolution by the Syrian and Libyan regimes continues. With the continuation of the popular uprising, the groups operating in the occupied homeland have escalated their operations against the Zionist enemy.

A group of our fighters operating in the occupied homeland hurled a hand grenade at a Zionist police patrol in the city of Khan Unis in the occupied Gaza Strip and wounded a number of enemy soldiers. The occupation forces discovered an explosive charge in a quarter in occupied Jerusalem. The occupation forces claimed that they defused the explosive charge.

In southern Lebanon, and at a time when the Syrian and Libyan forces continue their shelling of our people's camps in northern Lebanon, the Palestinian revolution's forces and the forces of the nationalist resistance resumed their operations against the Zionist enemy. A group of our hero fighters planted explosive charges which exploded beneath an Israeli military patrol and killed or wounded a number of the enemy soldiers.

GULF AFFAIRS

Qatar Minister, Bisharah on GCC Results

GF031232 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0850 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] Doha, 3 Nov (WAKH) — Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani, Qatari minister of state for foreign affairs, and 'Abdallah Bisharah, GCC secretary general, held a press conference today at the press center in Doha Gulf Hotel. The Qatari minister and Mr Bisharah dealt with political and economic issues and with the results of the GCC Ministerial Council's ninth session, which concluded yesterday, as well as Gulf efforts to cleanse the Arab atmosphere.

Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani said at his press conference: "The Ministerial Council held three working sessions during which it discussed the GCC summit conference's agenda and the current political situation in the region in light of the circumstances it is passing through." The Qatari minister added that the Council also discussed the Iraq-Iran war and developments in the wake of the recent Security Council resolution on this matter, as well as developments in the Arab situation and the necessity of creating an appropriate atmosphere for convening the Arab summit. He pointed out that the Council also listened to several recommendations on the unified economic agreement which will be submitted to the leaders of the Council.

Asked about the mediation between Syria and Iraq, Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani said that the fourth summit conference of the GCC leaders will adopt a decision on this matter and on Lebanon as well.

Concerning the unified economic agreement, 'Abdallah Bisharah disclosed that the fourth summit conference will discuss new activities meant to expand the sphere of commercial and economic movement among the GCC states. Mr Bisharah denied that other agreements within the comprehensive agreement exist and said that the new activities will pave the way for establishing the Gulf common market.

Concerning Iranian threats to close the Strait of Hormuz and the stand of the Gulf countries on this matter, the Qatari minister said that if the strait is closed foreign powers will intervene. He pointed out that there is Gulf coordination regarding this possibility.

Mr Bisharah spoke about the same issue and said: "The Strait of Hormuz is governed by international law, including the law of the sea, which was signed by the GCC states." He stressed that the stability and security of the GCC states are the responsibility of their peoples. He added that the security of the GCC states is separate from the security of the Strait of Hormuz by virtue of itsbeing an international waterway, and violating it will cause an international crisis.

About the Palestinian situation, Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani stressed that the PLO is the only legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, as was endorsed by Rabat summit conference, and that there has been no change whatsoever in this situation.

Answering a question about establishing a Gulf naval base, he said: "There have been specific recommendations in the field of defense cooperation."

'Abdallah Bisharah denied the existance of any difference in viewpoints during the Ministerial Council's meetings in economic, political, or any other aspects. He stressed that the GCC march is proceeding on the basis of accord and cooperation.

About the Gulf states' efforts to cleanse the Arab atmosphere, Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani said: "Some efforts have been made by UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan and by Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, and these efforts are still being continued."

At the start of the press conference, Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani said that the Ministerial Council held four meetings, during which it discussed the agenda prepared by the GCC General Secretariat. He also said that the task of the Ministerial Council is to submit recommendations to the Supreme Council on issues of interest to the Council. He added that the Ministerial Council discussed three important topics. First, he said, it discussed the political situation in the region in light of the current circumstances. Second, it discussed the Iraqi-Iranian war and developments in the situation following the issuance of the Security Council's resolution. And third, it discussed the current Arab situation, the Council's role, and the necessity of eliminating differences among the Arab states and creating an appropriate atmosphere for the Arab summit. He added that the Council also discussed defense cooperation among the Council member states and listened to remarks on the development of action in this field.

He also said: "Recommendations have been submitted to the Supreme Council in this regard together with other specific recommendations pertaining to the implementation of the economic agreement. Such recommendations will increase the freedom of practicing commercial and economic activities."

He then promised journalists that he would hold another press conference on the closing day of the summit.

KUWAIT

Delegation Views Results of GCC Meeting

LD031111 Kuwait KUNA in English 1005 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] Kuwait, Nov 3 (KUNA) — Deputy Premier Foreign and Information Minister shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir returned here Wednesday night from Doha, Qatar, where he led Kuwait's delegation to the meetings of the Ministerial Council of the Gulf Cooperation Council. On arrival, Shaykh Sabah was quoted as saying that the 9th Ministerial Council of the six-member states was held in an amicable and fraternal atmosphere, in which preparations for the fourth GCC summit conference were made.

The Ministerial Council meeting which grouped the foreign ministers of Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Oman, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar and Bahrain endorsed Wednesday the agenda of the GCC summit to be held in Qatar November 7. The agenda will be topped with a number of political issues relating to the

Iran-Iraq war in particular, and the Gulf and Arab situation in light of current developments in general. The financial report of the GCC secretariat was also tackled by the Ministerial Council.

Shaykh Sabah added, "We had reviewed all issues that concern our region and nation and agreed on issues to be presented to our leaders and reviewed some aspects and stands concerning the Arab nation at this important stage of history." He also said that "economic aspects were tackled and issues on cooperation were also discussed with brothers in the region." Shaykh Sabah expressed belief and confidence that the leaders of the Arab Gulf states would adopt positive resolutions, and said he is optimistic over the results of the forthcoming GCC summit.

On board the same plane, the delegation accompanied Shaykh Sabah also returned here. The delegation grouped the director of Shaykh Sabah's office Sulayman Majid ash-Shaheyn, the secretary general of the Gulf Cooperation Committee Dr Salim Jabir al-Ahmad, the adviser at the Political Department Faysal al-Haji and Muhammad al-Awadi from the Cooperation Committee.

The deputy premier was received on arrival by the Foreign Ministry Undersecretary Rashid ar-Rashid, the Information Ministry Undersecretary Shaykh Nasir Muhammad al-Ahmad as-Sabah and top officials of the Foreign and Information Ministries.

Defense Minister on GCC Military Cooperation

GF030906 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0632 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] Doha, 3 Nov (WAKH) — Kuwaiti Defense Minister Shaykh Salim as-Sabah has announced that studies on the results of the joint military maneuvers by the GCC states, codenamed Peninsula Shield, will be submitted to the GCC summit conference in Doha so the Council's leaders can adopt appropriate measures on developing and enhancing military cooperation among the member states. In a statement to published in today's edition of the Qatari newspaper *AR-RAYAH* he added that the question of establishing a GCC joint military force is left for the Gulf summit to decide on the basis that this issue is related to the Council's suprme strategy. He added that analyzing the lessons derived from these maneuvers may help define what steps can be adopted on this matter in the future.

Concerning the joint air defense system of the GCC states, Shaykh Salim as-Sabah announced that a rapid implementation plan has been set up in this regard in order to establish direct telephone lines among the operation divisions in the armies of the member states as well as among the leaders of the Council's member states.

He said the closure of the Strait of Hormuz would harm the Arab Gulf countries and Iran equally, and that such as action would be an act of suicide and suffocation at the same time. The dimensions of its repercussions cannot be predicted because it would directly affect the world's economy and strategies.

Interior Minister on Gulf Security Agreement

LD031620 Kuwait KUNA in English 1452 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] Kuwait, Nov 3 (KUNA) — Kuwait's minister of the interior Shaykh Nawwaf al-Ahmad al-Jabir, said Thursday that his country's reservations about the proposed Gulf security agreement did not mean that Kuwait was opposed to it or was rejecting it. Kuwait's reservation was aimed at securing the necessary cohesion between the proposed Gulf agreement and those passed by the Arab League linking all the Arab states on the one hand and the agreements Kuwait was committed to, on the other.

The minister, who was speaking to KUNA on the subject, also said Kuwait had to achieve coordination and cohesion between the Gulf security agreement and the constitution and laws of the State of Kuwait. The proposed Gulf security agreement linking all six members of the Gulf Cooperation Council was proposed by Saudi Arabia and approved by Bahrain, Qatar, Oman and the United Arab Emirates but Kuwait expressed reservations on it.

Shaykh Nawuf said when the GCC interior ministers met in Riyadh in October 1982, they decided to revise the agreement. That decision, he went on, was upheld by the third GCC summit in Manama in November of the same year when the Gulf heads of state referred the draft agreement to a committee of experts for further study.

GDR Industry Minister Arrives on Visit

LD031216 Kuwait KUNA in English 1109 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] Kuwait, Nov 3 (KUNA) — East German minister for construction industry, Wolfgang Junker, arrived here Thursday for a four-day visit, the Trade and Industry Ministry said. Junker, who was met by trade and industry minister, Jasim al-Marzuq, will hold talks with a variety of Kuwaiti officials to investigate means of boosting economic cooperation between the German Democratic Republic and Kuwait, the ministry added. These will include meetings with representatives of the ministries of trade and industry, defence, social affairs and labour, housing and communications, as well as the chairman of the Industrial Bank of Kuwait and the director of the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research. Particular emphasis will be placed on the possibility of GDR participation in construction projects in Kuwait and the establishment of joint consultancy ventures between the two states, officials said.

At 5.5 million dinars in exports and 3.5 million dinars in imports, according to 1981 figures, Kuwait's trade with the GDR, despite experiencing a four-fold increase over the last ten years, remains relatively minor, and observers have pointed out that there are many fields in which cooperation can be increased to the benefit of both states.

OMAN

Qabus Interview on Hormuz, Gulf Issues

GF031630 Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 2 Nov 83 p 6

[Exclusive interview with Oman's Sultan Qabus by Ahmad al-Jarallah]

[Text] People in the Arabian Gulf are keen to know about the ruler of Oman, who has been dubbed the "ruler with forthright political thoughts and belief". The sultan came to power in 1970, and in the ensuing years despite, strong winds of change, he managed to keep the Omani boat afloat, skilfully maneuvring a strong political policy and strategy for his nation.

Sultan Qabus has built Oman and the country and its politics have shaped the policy and life of the ruler for 13 years. Today, Oman is an emerging force in world politics and this has been made possible by the able guidance of the Omani ruler.

My interview with Sultan Qabus took place in his palace, from where he rules the nation, in As-Sib, Muscat, 30 kms from the capital. The palace is surrounded by a garden where birds of different breeds gather. The atmosphere is calm and serene and the palace itself is simple. It is surrounded by people who believe in morals and are calm, stable and secure. Everything around the palace speaks for the ruler who begins work at 10 am and could still be working at 10 pm, or even throughout the night, to complete his duties and deal with all matters personally.

Inside the office of H.M. Sultan Qabus, you can feel the fresh air blowing. The office ceiling is 7 meters high, and there is a huge conference table placed in one corner.

Sultan Qabus walks in majestically, attired in his traditional Omani robes at 5.45 pm. I had expected the meeting to be cancelled and was wary that I should have to meet the illustrious ruler at a time when he was exhausted from work. I was wrong. The sultan was keenly awaiting the interview to begin and was alert and ready with his answers.

Q. From your recent statements, it is clear that you consider the Iranian threat to close the Hormuz Strait a serious one. What is the basis for your suspicion?

A. The Hormuz Strait is an international waterway used by several world countries. It is used not only for transporting oil, but for trade between several countries. Iran realises its strategic importance, and if not, I hope it soon realises it, and decide not to close this waterway. If its intentions are serious, it will have serious repercussionns, not only for the region but for the world at large. In my opinion, Iran will not close the Strait, as that would not be the right decision.

Q. If Iran closes the Strait, what should our reaction be? Do you consider the GCC states are militarily capable of taking action?

A. If the Strait is closed, then we have to find out how that has been done. What is the nature of closure? Has it been done by laying mines? Or has it closed it by preventing ships from passing through? We do not know what the method of closure will be. But if it is closed, I suggest a speedy political solution by the GCC states. Negotiations are important. But to be realistic, we do not have the military capability to face the other side.

Closure of the Hormuz Strait is not a regional matter. It will affect all other countries who use the strait. If a political solution is not possible, then only one option is open: military intervention. But let's hope that such an event does not take place. It will not take place.

Q. Do you think GCC military might is sufficient to protect and maintain security in the Gulf?

A. The joint GCC maneuvers were a good thing, although they came late. They enabled GCC states to gauge the military might of member states and classify the types of weapons that are available. But the maneuvers itself do not mean that we have a capable army to maintain security in the Gulf. There are some people in the region who believe that the buying of sophisticated weapons has far-reaching consequences. But this is not true. If we have the weapons, we must be able to use them as well.

Diversity of arms is beneficial, and it was important that GCC armies know each other. If the armies are classified, we should be able to preserve security, but not in confrontation with a big power.

Q. What are the facilities given to the Americans? Will America play an active role in protecting the Gulf region?

A. America has a limited number of facilities, including a role to be played by the Omani Army. But these concessions are not unlimited. You should remember that we are a small country, friendly with a big power. This friendship imposes certain obligations, which have already been made public, and are within our national interests.

On using these concessions to maintain peace in the region, we believe that if American interests necessitate interference in the Gulf, no one will be able to prevent them from intervening, for this will be in the interests of the region and our allies. No one could stop American intervention in Grenada, when it was needed.

But let me emphasise that America does not have unlimited concessions.

Q. Why is Oman criticised for giving certain concessions to America, while several other countries also do the same?

A. All small countries have friendly ties with big powers. We are not exception and have worked for our national interest keeping in mind the similar political views held by America and my country.

Q. China is the only communist country with whom Oman has diplomatic relations. Why?

A. We have diplomatic relations not only with China but with other states as well. We established diplomatic links with China when that country stopped interfering in our internal affairs, on the late shah's insistence. China also displayed its friendly policies towards us. If other countries have similar politics, we could have diplomatic ties with them.

Q. How will you react if the Soviet Union asks for diplomatic links with Oman? Don't you think it is high time that Oman has links with that state?

A. The renewal of diplomatic ties with Aden has improved the situation. But we insist on not having relations with any power that interferes with our internal affairs.

Q. Are you confident and satisfied with your relations with Aden?

A. We are people who adapt easily, and are satisfied with our ties with Aden.

Q. Do you think present GCC cooperation is satisfactory?

A. The GCC has been able to achieve its goal in the short period of its existence. Cooperation within the GCC framework is increasing and I am happy with it. Now, we should make the people accept the decisions taken by the people.

Q. There have been suggestions that the Palestinians failed to take advantage of several opportunities given to them since 1948. What is your opinion?

A. Yes. They failed to take advantage of the opportunities they had. The meeting of 'Arafat and King Husayn was supposed to bear fruit. But Israel also did not create the right atmosphere for a solution. Legally, the West Bank should be returned to Jordan. The Arabs could have played an important role in negotiating the return of West Bank to Jordan, but the opportunities were thrown away.

Q. The Sultanate of Oman is unique. Some describe it as a closed society, others say it is conservative. How do you picture it?

A. After 40 years of isolation, Oman has entered the world cautiously. Oman is now different from what it was even five years ago. It studies every cause in detail and works in the interests of the people.

Q. After 13 years of your rule, is Oman what you wanted it to be?

A. We have striven to create the Oman of today, but we are careful not to indulge in wasteful projects. We take loans from the international market, but only for certain specific projects to develop our country.

Q. I have another question on the regional situation. Why is Iran adamant in continuing the war with Iraq?

A. If Iran had suffered heavy losses during the conflict, it would not have lasted this long. Iran is densely populated and the losses are minimal. It began the war under the religious banner and has brain-washed the Iranians that it is the quickest way to heaven. The Iranians have now become obedient instruments of war.

Q. Tension is increasing. What is the future for the world?

A. There has been tension in the world ever since man made weapons and learnt to use them. Wars were fought with primitive arms and today are being fought with modern sophisticated weapons. Tension in the world will prevail as long as people hold contradictory views and interests.

Q. What is Oman's policy on investing in other Gulf states?

A. Oman believes in the open-door policy. Omanis have the right to choose the method of cooperation, but we give priority to Omanis.

Note: Before meeting Sultan Qabus, I had met an Arab contractor who told me about the opportunities Oman gives for starting business there. The road networks has improved and flyovers are now being built to overcome traffic problems. I therefore asked Sultan Qabus:

Q. There are some people who hesitate in implementing the open-door policy. They also need a visa to enter Oman.

A. We welcome citizens of Gulf countries. But we are not prepared to accept others (others than Gulf Arabs) and give them citizenship, like what has happened in other countries. We are concerned about our security and share regional fears and have adopted some reservations.

Q. It has been alleged that you regret limited American support. Is it true?

A. We are a small country and need all the support we can get, this is true of American support also.

Q. Some new oil field finds in Oman has been reported. Is it true?

A. Yes, we have found some small oil fields and are studying their economic feasibility.

With this question, I concluded my interview with the Omani ruler, who speaks frankly and fearlessly. I was impressed as always with the personality of Sultan Qabus, who believes in a simple unostentatious life for himself. He, as always, had worn a white robe and a gray cloak. He also toyed with his gray beads, as he contemplated answers to my questions. He says he believe in speaking for truth. When I had met him 13 years ago in 1970, I had found Sultan Qabus to be a unique person. Mr opinion remains the same. His eyes reflect his confidence in himself and make the interviewer confident of his replies. He smiled gently, as he had been during the interview and walked me to the door, giving clear proof of his modesty.

Foreign Minister Scheduled To Visit PDRY

GF031750 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 2 Nov 83 p 1

[Text] Omani Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Yusuf al-'Alawi will pay an official visit to the PDRY. The visit will be the first of its kind by any official in the Sultanate to Aden after a long rift which ended with the signing of an agreement on normalizing relations on 27 October.

PDRY

Palestinians Urged To End Fighting

GF031906 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] A responsible source announced the following:

With profound concern, the PDRY is following the renewal of armed clashes in Tripoli which began this morning on a large-scale. Out of our concern for the useless shedding of Palestinian blood, we demand that our comrades in arms end the internecine fighting which serves only the anatgonist powers — foremost of whom are the U.S. imperialismists and Zionists — who continuously plot to strike at the Palestinian revolution, to liquidate it, and to destroy the PLO, the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, within the framework of their comprehensive conspiratorial aggressive plan designed to destroy the national liberation movements, to destroy our gains, and to destroy the progressive regimes oppressed to imperialism and Zionism.

In the name of the martyrs of the Palestinian revolution who fell on the road of the revolution, in the name of the common struggle and the common fate which joins the Palestinian and the Yemeni revolutions, we urge all the warring sides to end the bloodshed and to resort to peaceful dialogue rather than to the gun. We reiterate the need to take up to the standard of responsibility, to preserve the unity of the Palestinian ranks and of the PLO — the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people — and to assert the importance of struggle cohesion among the Palestinian revolution, the Lebanese Nationalist Movement, and Syria. We also affirm our readiness to continue exerting all possible efforts in order to end the internecine fighting and to end the differences through democratic and peaceful means.

Chairman Receives Message From 'Arafat

GF031946 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, today received a message from his Brother Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committe chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, in which he explained the latest developments in the Arab and the Palestinian arenas.

Official Scores U.S. Action in Grenada

GF032012 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali, member of the YSP Central Committee, has sent a cable to Comrade Isidoro Malmierca, Cuban foreign affairs minister. The cable says in part: With profound concern we have been following the developments of the situation in your region. Our country had strongly denounced the U.S. invasion of Grenada. We regard this act as a flagrant violation of international law and aggression against the freedom and the sovereignty of an independent state. The escalation of the tension which the region is experiencing and the increase in U.S. threats to the Cuban people will affect peace and security in the region, the consequences of which the United States will bear.

At this time we denounce the U.S. invasion and the grave actions and practices which resulted and which affected the safety and the security of the region. We also declare our support and solidarity with the friendly Cuban people. Do accept our condolences which we extend to you, to the Cuban people, and to the families of all those comrades whose fell during the perfidious aggression against Grenada.

SAUDI ARABIA

Foreign Minister Returns From GCC Meeting

LD031158 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1132 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] Riyadh, 3 Nov (SPA) — His Royal Highness Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal returned to Riyadh this afternoon from Doha after having taken part in the meetings of the Ministerial Council of the Gulf Cooperation Council, which concluded its work last night.

Doha Press Conference

GF031200 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0858 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] Doha, 3 Nov (WAKH) — Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal has said that the preparatory conference of the GCC Ministerial Council put forward a comprehensive assessment of the Council's accomplishments since last year and that its report included three main aspects: the political, economic, and security fields. During a press conference held here this morning, Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal stressed that the bases on which this Council was set up, and which are aimed at guarding the interests and affairs of this region within the Arab and Islamic frameworks, are bases that will no doubt promote the success of the Council's mission.

Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal also stressed that the GCC efforts to settle the dispute between Iraq and Iran have not failed nor have they stopped. He pointed out that the GCC states still desire to put an end to this war so that peace, security, and cooperation can prevail in this region. He added that the efforts made in this regard received a positive response from Iraq. He hoped that these efforts will also be responded to positively by Iran so that peace will dominate in the region.

Answering a question about Iran's threats to close the Strait of Hormuz, the Saudi foreign minister said: "Closing the Strait of Hormuz not only threatenens Gulf interests, it also impedes and threatens international navigation. And as for the stand of the GCC states, they are independent states and they will do what they can to safeguard their interests and the interests of their peoples as far as closing the Strait of Hormuz is concerned".

About the situation in Lebanon in light of the recent explosions that took place in the headquarters of the U.S. and French troops in Lebanon, he stressed that Saudi Arabia's stand on this issue is clear. He noted his country's concern that this incident not affect the peace march launched by the Lebanese Government starting with the cease-fire and ending with the Lebanese dialogue conference currently taking place in Geneva.

About foreign attempts to impose a mandate on or to provide foreign aid to the GCC states in the defense field, Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal said: "Naturally, we in the GCC didn't stem from foreign intervention." He stressed that cooperation among the GCC states in the field of security, particularly defense security, is proceeding rapidly and is satisfactory to all countries in the region. He expressed hope that this cooperation will achieve great success.

About the possibility of reconsidering the Arab peace plan and settling the Lebanese crisis on the Arab level during the next Arab summit conference, he said: "I don't believe there is any desire to change the Arab peace plan." He stressed that the next conference will reinforce this plan and boost it anew in order to bring about its success andacceptance worldwide.

With regard to the Lebanese question, Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal indicated that it will be discussed during the upcoming summit conference on the grounds of the action needed to reinforce the sovereignty and independence of that fraternal Arab country.

Concerning the elimination of Arab differences, especially with regard to the split within the Fatah movement, he said: "Cohesion among the Paoestinian brothers is a principal foundation of joint Arab action. It is the duty of the Palestinian brothers to understand their responsibility and give the Arab countries the opportunity to support and help them." Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal expressed his sorrow that Palestinian arms are raised against Palestinians and said such arms should be used against the real enemy. He expressed hope that these differences within the Fatah movement will end prior to the upcoming Arab summit so that the conference can support the issue.

Answering a question on issuing unified Gulf currency and passports for the GCC states, Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal said the frameworks of economic cooperation have been outlined and big strides have been made in this field. He indicated that ideas on a Gulf currency are being studied now. He expressed belief that there will be no obstacles whatsoever if the common interest is achieved. About issuing unified Gulf passports, he said that a meeting of the bodies concerned will be held to discuss the matter as part of other cooperation in this regard. He noted that there are other matters more important than issuing passports, particularly citizenship and treatment of citizens. He stressed that this concept is deep-rooted and once it is dealt with, Gulf citizens will share the same rights and duties in every one of the homelands.

Further Report

LD031602 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1100 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Excerpts] 3 Nov (SPA) Doha — His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, the foreign minister, left Doha today for Riyadh after participating in the meetings of the GCC Ministerial Council, which concluded its meeting last night in the capital of Qatar. His highness held a press conference before leaving Doha at which he spoke about the Arabian Gulf issues and the role being played by the GCC.

Regarding security and military cooperation among GCC states, prince Sa'ud al-Faysal said that such cooperation exists in the best manner and that the maneuvers that recently took place point to the extent of cooperation and immediate implementation. He said we are looking forward for further and more comprehensive cooperation in the near future and that there will be recommendations to the summit in this connection.

He pointed out that everyone at the foreign ministers conference was satisfied with the outcome of the cooperation in the political field among the GCC. He said that there will be a comprehensive report for the summit in this respect and a routine report that would contain the political, economic, and security aspects and analysis of the present situations.

Concerning the Iraqi-Iranian war and the threats to close the Strait of Hormuz, which places GCC countries at a fateful stage, and whether the GCC members are ready to use their natural right of self-defense, his royal highness said that the closing of international waterways is a hostile act not only against the region's states but also against the states of the world. Within this context, we hope that the threats we have heard are mere threats and do not indicate intended action, because its scope will not only be the widening of the circle of conflict in this destructive war, which we hope will come to an end; it will also be a cause for foreign interference in our region. Naturally, this being the case, there is no interest at all for any side to halt navigation in the Gulf because all the states of the region will be harmed, including Iran. Also, Iran has no interest in foreign interference in our region. The interest of all of us dictates that peace and harmony should prevail and the general interest dictates that Iran should respond to the peace efforts, instead of escalating the war, whether through verbal threats, which allow a chance for foreign interference, or through an action with results that cannot be favorable. Naturally, the exercise of the natural right to self-defense is the right of every sovereign and independent state, and the GCC members will exercise this right if they suffer this misfortune.

Concerning Gulf efforts to eliminate Arab differences in preparation for the Arab summit in Riyadh, His Royal Highness Sa'ud al-Faysal confirmed that all GCC members — indeed, the majority of Arab countries — are eager to see Arab differences eliminated. He said the GCC members in particular are interested in this matter and that efforts have been made and others will be made. We shall continue these efforts to achieve purification of the atmosphere and correct the Arab body so that it can carry out its function. His royal highness denied that envoys were sent to Arab countries to clarify the atmosphere before the convening of the Arab summit conference. He said no such thing existed.

On the question on the resumption of the Council's mediation efforts aimed at ending the Iraqi-Iranian war, his royal highness said that the Council is ready at any moment to resume it once an indication is received for it to do so. We are ready to do all we can; we need only an indication from the parties concerned.

Concerning the use of Omani ports for the exportation of Gulf oil in the event of the closure of Hormuz, his royal highness said that many things can happen and many scenarios can take place; I do not want to go into detail. We hope that the threats remain threats and no action will come from them because it serves no one.

Concerning the possibility of postponing the Arab summit for awhile to allow for the elimination of Arab differences, his royal highness said this has been repeatedly mentioned. The summit is an instrument; it proceeds in accordance with the will of the Arab states and they all, without doubt, should be eager to see that the requirements for the success of the Arab action summit are there. His royal highness added: From this premise, we hope that the Arab atmosphere improves before the summit. As far as the Kingdom is concerned, preparations are under way to secure the suitable climate for holding the summit in a good and frank atmosphere. The rest is up to the Arab states.

UAE

Minister of State Departs for Morocco 3 Nov

GF030909 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0635 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Excerpt] Doha, 3 Nov (WAKH) — Rashid 'Abdallah, UAE minister of state for foreign affairs, left Doha for Rabat today. During his visit, Mr 'Abdallah will brief UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, who is currently visiting Morocco, on the results of the GCC foreign ministers meetings which concluded in Doha yesterday evening.

Iranian Vessel Makes Maiden Voyage to UAE

GF031608 Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 3 Nov 83 p 15

[By staff reporter]

[Text] "Iran Motahari", the latest bulk carrier of Iran's state owned shipping company arrived in Port Khalid yesterday on its maiden voyage to a UAE port from Bandar Khomeyni.

The 40,000 DWT vessel which had carried a consignment of 31,500 tonnes barley from Hamburg to Bandar Khomeyni will be sailing tomorrow for Argentina. It had brought 94 empty containers to Port Khalid. It arrived accompanied by the 16,000 DWT "Idalat" which has berthed at Port Khalid for bunkering and minor repairs.

Captain I.B. Gault, skipper of the "Motahari" told a shipboard reception to welcome the vessel that they had sailed into Bandar Khomeyni "completely without incident" on October 31 as part of a convoy of 14 ships. As they sailed into the harbour, another convoy of 18 vessels moved out of Bandar Khomeyni where, he claimed, there was no evidence of the entrance being mined.

The "Motahari", bought by the Islamic Republic of Iran Shipping Lines [IRISL] from a Spanish company, is four years old. It has a crew of 30.

The reception on board the "Motahari" was attended among others by executives of the IRISL's local agents, officials of the port authority and leading Iranians.

Briefs

Foreign Companies Boycotted — Abu Dhabi, 30 Oct (QNA) — The Israel Boycott Office in the Amirate of Abu Dhabi has banned the export of bananas, butter, and oranges from Egypt after official information proved that Israel exports them to Egypt. The Israel Boycott Office in Dubayy has also banned dealings with 54 foreign companies from Kenya, Canada, Japan, the United Kingdom, Malaysia, the United States, and Australia for violating the regulations of Arab Boycott of Israel. [Excerpt] [Doha QNA in Arabic 0950 GMT 30 Oct 83 GF]

Abu Dhabi Imports, Exports — According to statistical reports issued by the Abu Dhabi Customs Department on the foreign trade of the Amirate of Abu Dhabi, Japan's exports to Abu Dhabi in 1982 totalled 2.4 billion dirhams, 19 percent of Abu Dhabi's imports. U.S. exports in 1982 totalled 1.9 billion dirhams, 15.3 percent of the amirate's imports. UK exports in 1982 totalled 1.8 billion dirhams, while FRG exports to Abu Dhabi totalled 1.6 billion dirhams. Kuwait was the biggest Arab exporter to Abu Dhabi in 1982, with exports totalling 275.5 million dirhams; Lebanese exports totalled approximately 171 million dirhams; Bahraini exports totalled 129 million dirhams; and Qatari exports to Abu Dhabi in 1982 totalled 119 million dirhams. Imports totalled 12.7 billion compared with 12.5 billion dirhams in 1981. Imports of transport equipment and machinery totalled 7 billion dirhams, 75 percent of all imports. Imports of processed goods amounted to 2.7 billion dirhams; imports of miscellaneous equipment totalled 80 million dirhams; and imports of food and livestock totalled 766 million dirhams. Abu Dhabi's nonpetroleum exports dropped from 23.4 million dirhams in 1981 to 18.9 million dirhams in 1982. The total value of goods re-exported by Abu Dhabi in 1982 was 650 million dirhams, 5.1 percent of the total value of imports. [Summary] [Ash-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 31 Oct 83 p 6 GF]

Mubarak Interview in 5 Nov AT-TADAMUN

NC031642 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1421 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] London, 3 Nov (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak granted a comprehensive interview to the London-based Arabic language magazine *AT-TADAMUN*. The interview will be published in the magazine's 5 Nov issue.

In the interview, President Mubarak deals with foreign and domestic issues, particularly the democratic experience in which Egypt now lives and the condition of the Egyptian economy.

President Mubarak also speaks about current Arab issues, especially the Lebanese crisis, the Palestinian cause, and Egyptian-Arab relations.

The following is the text of the interview:

AT-TADAMUN: It is evident that under the domestic political formula you are putting up with more than party entities, whether these are declared entities, or entities that are being founded. For instance, you permit the Neo-Wafd Party, which is still being established, to practice overt political action. You also gave such permission to the Al-Ummah party. You also gave the opportunity to the Islamic current — which is not officially declared — to have the right to public dialogue. All this occurs at a time when these political entities do not deal with you with the same degree of tolerance, bearing in mind that praise for you by these entities does not negate their consistent struggle with the executive and legislative authorities and with the political organization that you patronize. Is there any explanation for this state of affairs?

President Husni Mubarak: I adhere to the supremacy of the law. This is a rule to which I am committed, and I devote great interest to this subject — democracy and respect for the laws. We have the judiciary to settle any issue. The Neo-Wafd Party is established because the party itself submitted an application. I have absolutely no quarrel with anyone. I deal with all people in accordance with this principle. The Neo-Wafd Party submitted an application and the Parties' Committee answered the Neo-Wafd: "No, you froze yourself and you decided to dissolve yourself." The Neo-Wafd party said: No, and it resorted to the judiciary. If the judiciary hands down a verdict for the Neo-Wafd, then we do not fear this verdict. Nor do we fear this or that party, so long as it operates within the framework of legitimacy and supremacy of the law; this is the best safeguard for any freedom or democracy.

The Neo-Wafd party is being founded; its activity is compatible with the law. The law determines that so long as this party is being founded, then it has some rights that it can exercise. We fear neither this nor that party. Why should we fear it? Is it not an Egyptian party? We have accepted for ourselves the principle of opinions, of the parties, and of the divergent trends. In my opinion, this is the best guarantee. Every phase has its own circumstances and conditions. When Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir and his companions came, there was a revolution and a process of a change in the country's social map. This was a phase of our history in which great changes occurred in Egypt and in the area in general. Then came President Anwar as-Sadat and he entered the phase of constitutional legitimacy, of liberties, and of laying down the bases of the supremacy of the law — and then what happened? I took office after him. What you observe is that the press has obtained freedom unprecedented in the era of the monarchy or in the post-revolution era. Did it happen under the monarchy that any one could attack the king? No one could. We will not permit deviation from the framework of legitimacy under any circumstances.

Regarding Al-Ummah Party, which is an unknown party, this party has obtained a court order. I do not fear this party. Let it come out and practise its activity as long as there are legal bases and rules governing this activity. As long as everybody ultimately works for the national and pan-Arab interest, I have no objection. I am not eternal and no man is eternal. Therefore, we respect the rule of the law and consider this the best guarantee to every citizen. The executive authority may have done injustice to someone. In this case would it be good to seek a court judgement....? [MENA ellipses] We abide by that. Whether there are some entities, Islamic or non-Islamic currents, what is important is that these entities not depart from legality and laws.

There are Muslims and Christians in Egypt.... We live together, you have your religion and I have mine. I have Christian friends just as I have Muslim friends. We are all Egyptians and Egypt is for all, not only for the Christian or for the Muslim. I completely rule out this subject. In respect of the struggle question, these inclinations are with the executive and legislative authorities and with the political organization; this is a natural matter. If it happens that a party went out and another party came in, the struggle will continue. This is the nature of things and the nature of man.

Let us take Britain for instance. The Labour Party goes out and the Conservatives come in. The struggle continues and the opposition continues. The Labour Party returns and the Conservatives leave. The state of struggle continues. This is natural. The same can be said about the United States where a permanent struggle exists between the Democratic and the Republican parties. This is a natural matter.

Even if a new party is established in Egypt and succeeded in assuming power it would be a natural thing also. The party that was in power will struggle against the party that succeeded in assuming power. What I would like to emphasize is that the struggle between parties does not alarm me and I regard it as a natural matter.

AT-TADAMUN: When did you receive this clear concept of democracy?

President Husni Mubarak: I have held this concept for a long time, even when I was an officer in the Armed Forces. The method of relations in military life is based on the fact that there are orders, rules, and laws. Let us suppose that one committed a specific mistake and he was punished by his commander. If the man claims that he was wronged and that he did not commit a mistake his claim would be accepted and he should resort to the military court which under the law would decide on the matter without any foreign interference. The court may acquit or confict him. I repeat that the rule of the law is the criterion and is the best guarantee. It is possible that in an emotional moment verdicts that may be unjust are delivered; however, the judiciary is completely cleared of that and here lies its great importance.

AT-TADAMUN: While following up the political developments which accompanied the unexpected extension of the state of emergency by 1 year, there are many speculations regarding the main motive for this — whether the extension was a result of one of the following reasons:

1. The appearance of armed Marxist organizations.

2. The activity by certain Islamic groups.

3. The sudden relaxation and then sudden setback in Egyptian-Libyan relations.

Are there other reasons?

President Husni Mubarak: Egyptian-Libyan relations cannot drive me to extend the enforcement of the Emergency Law. We did not declare a state of emergency, but what happened was an extension of the Emergency Law. Let us first ask ourselves: What is the Emergency Law? This law was laid down to secure the interests of the homeland and the citizen against any tampering from within or from any quarter. We laid down the law to secure speedy action, measures, and detention provided that the person detained will be subject to trial. The Emergency Law does not rule. A relaxation or tension in Egyptian-Libyan relations cannot absolutely drive me to extend the enforcement of the Emergency Law. A crisis between Egypt and another state may make it necessary to declare a state of emergency. There is a great difference between extending the enforcement of the Emergency Law and the declaration of a state of emergency which means a general alert.

I am not afraid of Libya or others. Libya does not constitute a danger or threat to me... We in Egypt... it is unreasonable to raise the state of preparedness or to declare a state of emergency because of Libya. I will not fight Libya or any Arab state. In spite of the actions of some of them, I will not fight any Arab state.

However, with regard to the Marxist, communist, or other organizations, these organizations existed even prior to the 23 July 1952 revolution. Communist activity exists in all states of the world; it existed in Egypt in the era of the monarchical regime. The difference is that the states in which communist activity exists are either dictatorial or democratic states.

The dictatorial states take whatever measures they want without anyone asking them what they are doing. However, the states in which there is a multiplicity of parties and a plurality of views and which are based on democracy have a law called the antiterrorism law and it is scores of times stricter and stronger than the Egyptian Emergency Law. I use the Emergency Law, not a state of emergency — and there is a great difference between the two. I use the Emergency Law to resist any incidences of violence which would harm the interests of the Egyptian homeland or of the Egyptian citizens, and to ensure democracy and freedom. The reason is that we do not want to turn democracy into freedom devoid of safeguards, as some people want, because ultimately this democracy would lead to anarchical freedom and to dictatorship. There is no freedom in the world without guarantees. Can anyone in the United States deviate from legitimacy? Police powers there are formidable and nobody can depart from the law.

I have familiarized myself with the antiterrorism law in force in a number of democratic states, including Britain, France, and Germany. I have discovered that the section of the Emergency Law that we use in combating terrorism is very weak in comparison to what is being applied in these states. We have decided to promulgate an antiterrorism law — and terrorism exists throughout the world, not only in Egypt. Egypt is more stable than any other state in the world.

If we promulgate an antiterrorism law, some people say it is an exceptional law. I say confidently and definitively that, had I not been preserving legitimacy and using the Emergency Law to safeguard the citizens, democracy and freedom would have been endangered. What happened in 1981 was aimed against all parties. The party leaders headed the list of those who were to be disposed of. Who can accept such a thing in any state — whether democratic or undemocratic? For instance, the German interior minister can arrest a citizen and imprison him for 6 months without a court warrant. In facing terrorism, Germany, for example, takes immediate measures. It does not wait for the judiciary to hand down its verdict in order to take measures. The same course of action is taken in France and in Britain too; However, we in Egypt have no such measures. We in Egypt have extended the Emergency Law to safeguard the stability of this country and to preserve it from any setbacks, but we have not proclaimed a state of emergency.

AT-TADAMUN: Will the critical writings that we notice in the Egyptian press continue, or will you become impatient with them?

President Husni Mubarak: I go back to the question of the state of emergency. I repeat and say had I been using the state of emergency, there would have been no free press in Egypt. The Egyptian press writes whatever it wishes without censorship, and we fear nothing. It is imperative to heed objective criticism. However, writing and criticizing just for the sake of criticizing is something futile.

The people determine everything. As head of state, I will not check all the things that are written in the newspapers. There is the judiciary for answering the opposition. I want to lay down the principle of the supremacy of the law and to achieve it as a fait accompli. However, I will not take any exceptional measure against any individual. The reason is that the judiciary is there for everybody. I will take no exceptional measures so long as the judiciary is the decisive factor. It must be clear to all that a state of emergency is one thing and the extension of the Emergency Law another. God be praised, we are the state that most resorts to an objective method in dealing with extremism.

AT-TADAMUN: Do the current political organizations, including the NDP and the presumed [al-muftaradah] political organizations, especially Al-Ummah party, and the proposed [al-muqtarahah] political organizations, including Al-Wafd party — do all these organizations appeal to the ordinary Egyptian citizens or do the majority of the people support the organization which you are personally leading?

President Husni Mubarak: It is in the nature of people in the developing countries — and Egypt is one of these countries — to support the party which is led by the head of state. I personally cannot prevent the people from joining the party which I am leading just as I do not compel them to join it. As to whether these parties and organizations to which you have referred appeal to the ordinary Egyptian citizens, my answer is "no", since many segments of the people are adverse to joining parties, are hesitant, or refrain.

The question of parties in Egypt is not new. In 1952, when I was 24 years old, I remember that several parties were active on the Egyptian arena, but the party which appealed to the majority of the people was Al-Wafd Party. This was because power was in its hands at that time. Moreover, we used to hear many stories about the struggle among parties and how many people became Wafdists just because Al-Wafd party, for example, rescinded a decision issued by another party providing that a secondary school student should not be promoted to a higher class if he did not get the necessary marks in certain subjects. Many people, including me, sometimes used to shout "long live Al-Wafd party" because we were young on the one hand and because Al-Wafd was the majority party. We were doing this without insight and without careful consideration.

At present, we notice that the parties in Egypt have no roots. It may be permissible to assume that the party which has communist tendencies has roots on the basis that the communist party is an old one, but at the same time the Arab aera — and Egypt is part of it — does not want communism. For this reason, the roots of communism will not be strong under any case.

AT-TADAMUN: Mr president, don't you believe it is preferable that the communists work in the open instead of working underground, in other words, that they be allowed to practice party activity like others?

President Husni Mubarak: We are watching the communists, whether they are in the open or underground. The communists have been present for a long time. 'Abd an-Nasir tried them several times and the Soviets used to be annoyed by this. However, in this context I wish to affirm that I have no objection to any party exercising its activity within the framework of legality, laws, and controls. Those who work secretly or underground — as it is being said regarding communist activity — will be working against legitimacy and will be held responsible for their activity before the court.

AT-TADAMUN: Can we hear from the president his concept of democracy?

President Husni Mubarak: Democracy, as I see it, is the multiplicity of opinions, the multiplicity of parties, and the freedom of expression within the framework of the supremacy of the law. I say this while taking into consideration that because a law is applied in some states, for example, that does not mean it should be applied in Egypt. This is because each state has its own laws and concepts in this connection.

I believe, for example, if a party or political organization in Germany wanted to stage a march in protest against something or in support of a cause, it should submit a request to the Interior Ministry to obtain an official permit. The minister or the security department would ask about the number of persons who would participate in the march. If the answer is 100, the participants must not exceed 100. They also must not deviate from the road set for them by the security department concerned. As I know, things have developed to the extent that they now impose fees on those who participate in a march on the basis that safeguarding the safety of this march costs the state money.

For example, if we follow Germany's suit, there will be many objections. Many will say that this is a restriction of freedom and that it is unreasonable that the citizen should pay a fee for expressing his opinion. We are a developing country that exercises democracy in a way that does not conflict with the general issue. Therefore, there is freedom of expression, which will not be shaken by doubts expressed by those who refuse to see the law applied to all. This is a safeguard for all.

AT-TADAMUN: By virtue of the Egyptian Constitution the People's Assembly speaker will temporarily assume the post of the president of the republic in the absence of the president. The soundness and smoothness of this provision was confirmed by the transfer of power following the departure of President as-Sadat. However, such soundness and smoothness could not have been achieved had not Husni Mubarak been the vice president and a link in the continuity of power. When will it be the time to chose a vice president to ensure the sound application of the constitutional provision? Can this be expected after the next election? Are the historical qualifications of the vice president the same as those stipulated by the 23 July Revolution — namely, that the vice president should be from the national institution which the Armed Forces represent?

President Husni Mubarak: It is important first to make it clear that the constitution does not provide that the vice president must be from the Armed Forces. The Egyptian Constitution gave the president of the republic the right to appoint one or more vice presidents. Several people held this post during the time of 'Abd an-Nasir. There were three or four vice presidents. He used to change and replace them. At the time of President as-Sadat there was another vice president. By nature, I cannot but be active in any post I hold. I cannot remain inactive in a post. When I was appointed vice president I was entrusted with several tasks. Anwar as-Sadat appointed me vice president after he was in power for 5 years. The appointment of a vice president is not an easy matter; likewise, there is no constitutional provision for the appointment of a vice president from the Armed Forces or from any other group. When I choose a vice president to help me I will define his tasks. The constitution does not define the duties of the vice president. When I choose a vice president I want to present to the people the vice president whom they may, or perhaps may not, elect as president after me. This is the foundation and the decision is up to the people.

I spent 6 years beside President As-Sadat as vice president, assisting him in what he asked me to do. Under the constitution the vice president has no right to make decisions as this is the right of the president who assumes power. The other quarter that has the right is the executive authority — namely, the chairmanship of the Council of Ministers.

AT-TADAMUN: [Words indistinct] openness of Egyptian economy and productivity in ways characterized by the great political experience you have achieved which was advocated in the 1920's by Tal'at Harb — namely, to be proud of the Egyptian industry and production. To what extent has the political call succeeded in achieving an economic return? Will your fight against corruption continue in the same way as in the last 2 years?

President Husni Mubarak: I am not an economic expert; however, during the 6 years I spent as vice president I used to inform the president of anything I heard and to consult with him on the matter. I would then implement what he asked me to do in this respect. I used to act within the limits I deemed useful. Although the Egyptian Constitution does not define the vice president's powers, occasionally I would make initiatives, including the call I made to the Egyptian economists to hold an economic conference. At this conference I asked the economists to draft their views regarding Egypt's economic problems and solutions to them.

The problem of consumption liberalization was among the problems discussed. We reached the conclusion that this problem is most serious. We laid down a plan of action and began implementing it within the framework of the 5-year plan which was prepared 1 year after I assumed power. This plan is based on transforming the consumption liberalization to production liberalization. This will provide employment opportunities for the Egyptian citizen. We have achieved considerable success in this sphere. It is important that we take into consideration the fact that the world economy in general is passing through a crisis. Being part of this world, it is natural that our economic problem, which was originally difficult, will be more difficult. It is a problem that will not be solved in a day and a night; however, our determination to implement the 5-year plan makes us hope for the best.

As for corruption, it is important to affirm that this phenomenon is not confined to Egypt. Corruption is widespread all over the world. The rate of corruption in Egypt is less than in several other states. Is there no corruption in the United States, Britain, France, and the Soviet Union? In the socialist countries in general, is there no widespread corruption? I will not indulge in the details of this phenomenon. [words indistinct] all the corruption cases that have appeared have been examined by the court, and to the court I will refer every corruption case that appears; this is my method.

I will not confiscate the property of anyone because I am president and have powers, but if the court orders a confiscation, I will be very satisfied because this means that justice is taking its course. Any citizen accused of corruption will be referred to court. If he is found guilty, he will be punished, and if he is not found guilty, he will be released. Fighting corruption does not mean arresting every person accused of corruption because this person may be innocent.

I repeat that corruption is widespread in all the states of the world. But the method used by the Arab press in writing about the corruption cases in Egypt gave an impression that corruption is widespread in Egypt, although the corruption cases are few. This press also spoke about the collapse of buildings in a way that gave an impression that every building will collapse, although there were very few cases. These cases — and I am not looking for a justification — seem natural in a society of 46 million people. Nevertheless, we have decided not to shield anyone and to let the law take its course.

AT-TADAMUN: Food subsidies in Egypt cause a considerable strain on the Egyptian economy. There is an estimate that these subsidies are equal to Egypt's revenues from the Suez Canal. Are there alternatives to these subsidies that will not cause burdens on the impoverished classes in Egypt?

President Husni Mubarak: For 1 and 1/2 years we have been implementing a plan to reduce subsidies in a way that does not adversely affect the impoverished classes. We are constantly looking for alternatives, and this is being done in a very quiet atmosphere.

AT-TADAMUN: To what extent does the Egyptian economy depend on U.S. aid? Is there any U.S. economic pressure as a result of Egypt's political stands, especially its stand on the Lebanese issue and the Middle East issue in general, and the continuing absence of the Egyptian ambassador from Israel? What is the full story of the pressure exercised on you by the congressmen during your recent visit to the United States and is this pressure related to reports reiterated recently about a tendency to devalue the Egyptian pound vis-a-vis the dollar?

President Husni Mubarak: We are getting aid from the United States, from some European states, and from several other states. This happens for all the developing states and not only for Egypt, but the question is: Do we depend only on this? The answer is obviously no. I must pay great attention to developing the economy, industry, and production. We are not using this aid only to buy food, but also for the industrialization of Egypt because this aid ultimately is not guaranteed. I would like to emphasize that this aid does not represent any pressure. We do not yield to any pressure. I personally never bow my head to any pressure under any circumstances.

Several developing countries are cooperating with the Soviet Union. We were among these states. However, when the Soviet Union began to interfere in Egypt's domestic affairs, President Anwar as-Sadat sent them away. I am not linking the two cases, but I repeat and affirm that I do not accept any pressure. I have said this to the Americans. When they presented me with demands in the Congress, I told them that this was a matter of sovereignty. The U.S. Administration did not raise the subject at all. I even asked them why they did not mention this subject. They answered that they knew my stand.

As for the congressmen who raised this subject, I explained to them the situation. I asked them: Do you want me to return the ambassador? They said: Yes. I told them: This is purely a matter of national sovereignty; However, you can help me. They said: how? I said: First, Israel should declare a timetable for its withdrawal from Lebanon and should put this withdrawal into effect. It should not cite Syria as an excuse. This is an inter-Arab issue. Secondly, the reactivation of the Tabah issue, and thirdly the Palestinian issue. However, when I was asked to return the Egyptian ambassador, my answer was no. They submitted written demands to me, not at the official session, but during the contacts. However, does this represent pressure on us so that I may change my political line? Of course not. I repeat that I accept no pressure.

Concerning the devaluation of the Egyptian pound, this is the first time that I have heard such talk. We have never contemplated devaluing the Egyptian pound.

AT-TADAMUN: Is this out of the question?

President Husni Mubarak: Absolutely out of the question. Is it because Israel has devalued its currency that we will devalue the pound? We repeat that we are the masters of our own will and of our decisions. We deal with the United States which helps us in some domains. However, this aid will not pressure us into pursuing a specific policy loyal to this or to that quarter.

AT-TADAMUN: The Egypt we hear about is different from the Egypt I saw in Cairo. There is the subway, scores of overhead bridges, power generating stations, a new sewage network, and a construction boom unprecedented even in some oil states. Outside Cairo, there is an agricultural revolution — particularly in the desert areas, new industries, replacement of old factories, and renewal of the irrigation and communications networks. What is the equation of Egypt's real economic crisis and its wide economic and construction activity?

President Husni Mubarak: At the end of the war, we faced a crisis in the almost collapsed [public] services — and I mean telephones, sewers, potable water, electricity, housing, traffic, sanitation, food, and industry. This is why we mapped out the plan about which I have spoken. Under the present 5-year plan, we spent double the expenditure on the sewage network that was spent on this network in 50 years. In the 5-year plan, we included projects to help us face the housing crisis. We built suspension bridges to address the traffic problem which arose with the economic openness, because cars and traffic jams abounded in all areas of Cairo.

However, all this does not mean there is no economic crisis in Egypt. Instead of just one crisis, there are crises. But we do not wait for the crises to end to introduce reforms or to face the complicated conditions. We will continue facing these crises, because they are becoming more intricate, until we achieve a model or semimodel formula that will abridge the contradiction existing between the economic crisis and the instances of reform and confrontation of crises.

AT-TADAMUN: Do you think that the Arab states might contribute to Egypt's economic and military domains, if Egypt abrogates the Camp David agreement?

President Husni Mubarak: Camp David includes two frameworks: The first framework is connected with Egyptian-Israeli relations. In accordance with this framework, a treaty was signed under which we recovered our land, and ambassadors were exchanged. Should anyone be angered because we recovered our land without bloodshed, and without armament expenditure?

The second framework is related to the resolution of all the aspects of the Palestinian problem. We began with the autonomy talks that ended up being frozen. This is Camp David. Therefore, what is the meaning of the annulment of the Camp David agreement? It means the declaration of a state of war with Israel. If I want to declare a state of war, it is imperative for me to be militarily prepared. In other words, I should halt development and the evolution of services. I should concentrate all my efforts on war. Who will foot the bill for a war? The Arabs? I do not know. Suppose that we obtained the necessary funding from them — no less than 50 to 60 billion pounds for armaments to enable the Army to stand its ground. Who will give me arms to fight Israel? The United States will not give me arms to fight Israel. Furthermore, Europe also will not give me arms.

AT-TADAMUN: The Soviet Union stands ready and prepared. Is it possible to knock on the Soviet door?

President Husni Mubarak: In such an instance, the Soviets will impose terms on us — and this is another matter. The United States and Europe will not give me arms to fight Israel. Let us resort to reason and logic. We acquired sophisticated aircraft only in the wake of the Egyptian-Israeli treaty and after the achievement of peace. What is sought through the abolition of the Camp David agreement? Shall I return Sinai to Israel? The proclamation of a state of war signifies freezing all service and development projects. It also signifies that we should raise the slogan: No sound is louder than the sound of battle. It also means focusing all efforts on armament, and this requires a long time. In whose benefit will these things be done, and who will finance us? if these sums are available, why not expend them on development? This would be better. However, we are still committed to the Palestinian issue. We exert our utmost efforts for the sake of the Palestinian and Lebanese issues. I defy anyone to prove that any other state addresses international forums more than Egypt on the Palestinian and Arab causes.

You personally mentioned the subject of congressional pressure aimed at prompting us to change our political line. Our policy will not change. We also have commitments that will not change. No pressure will succeed in making us change our political line. The cause will be forfeited if differences continue, and the West Bank and the Gaza sector will be Judaized under the aegis of these differences.

AT-TADAMUN: Outside the scope of the official relations with the Arab states, particularly in the hot areas — Lebanon and Iraq, matters connected with the PLO, and the attempts to Judaize the West Bank — Egypt plays an efficacious role. Even more, Egypt effectively plays this role in justifying the Syrian presence in Lebanon and in demanding that Israel should withdraw first. How do you justify your role, although there are no diplomatic relations with these states, and what is the attitude of these states toward you?

President Husni Mubarak: I have repeatedly spoken of this subject. All the cards of the Arab cause are in the Arabs' hands — and events now prove the soundness of my viewpoint. The

Arabs differ, and if they continue to be in this state, the cause will be forfeited. The cause is not the abrogation of the Camp David agreement only to proclaim a state of war. It is imperative for us to be logical and to set differences aside, because the sole quarter that benefits from these differences is Israel. Let us sit together to agree on the method for resolving the issue through logic and reason. The Fes summit resolutions emphasized that the peaceful solution is the sole course leading to the resolution of the issue. If we continue to differ, then Israel will benefit. Even if Israel spent billions of dollars to create an auspicious atmosphere for entrenching its presence in the West Bank and the Gaza Sector, Israel would not be able to create an atmosphere better than the one which now exists because of our differences. While Israel achieves an agreement with Lebanon, the Arab states differ among themselves over the withdrawal. Nor is the PLO in a position that allows it to think of its basic issue. The U.S. elections have approached and Israel builds settlements in the West Bank and the Gaza sector. Meanwhile, all we do is continue to differ, but without our becoming alert to the fact that if the settlements become a fait accompli, world opinion will not approve of the expulsion of the settlers. The Egyptian-Israeli negotiations were postponed for a period of 3 months because of nothing other than settlers. So, what do you think about 155 settlements? Israel continues to build new settlements calmly. It is delighted to see Syria differing with Iraq, Libya supporting Syria against Iraq, and the remaining states in disagreement. I was once asked about Israel's ambitions in southern Lebanon. I said: I do not believe that Israel has ambitions in southern Lebanon, because it is now busy with the West Bank and the Gaza sector. When Israel fully Judaizes these areas, it will turn to southern Lebanon.

We create propitious circumstances for Israel to expand because of our differences and problems, and because our attention is diverted from the basic issue, the Palestinian issue.

AT-TADAMUN: Is this what you meant by the phrase "the death of the Palestinian issue?"

President Husni Mubarak: Of course, and if there is another development, then I am ready to discuss it.

AT-TADAMUN: Egypt is almost an ally joining Iraq — by arms and expertise — in its pan-Arab battle with the Iranian onslaught. why?

President Husni Mubarak: As to why we help Iraq, this is because Iraq announced that it will return to its international border — and it is an Arab state. It is my duty to help it defend itself and protect its border. But this does not mean that we are supporters of war. We call on Iran to halt the war and to hold negotiations for a peaceful solution to this issue. The reason is that the continuation of the war is a destruction of the two states' resources. I repeat: It is incumbent on Iran to heed the call of peace and to accept negotiating instead of continuing with the war.

AT-TADAMUN: If Iran does not stop the war and does not agree to negotiate, will there be more advanced Egyptian steps in the domain of extending aid to Iraq?

President Husni Mubarak: Talk about such a subject should be addressed to Iraq, not to the press, and I cannot convey such a message to President Saddam Husayn, or any Arab president, through the press.

AT-TADAMUN: What are the boundaries of the Egyptian security belt? To what extent has the Egyptian arms industry developed? Is this industry, at this phase, a liability or an asset to the Egyptian economy?

President Husni Mubarak: It is imperative for us to have a military industry so that when it comes to supplying our armies — at least in the domain of ammunition — we will not rely on states that might or might not give us this equipment. We build our military industry and we develop it. We will manufacture tank guns for the benefit of our nation and for the benefit of the friendly Arab states which might find themselves in a crisis and in need of this type of weapon to defend their security, such as Iraq and other states in Africa. Naturally, armament is a liability for the economy, but industry is another matter. We manufacture the equipment in our country instead of buying it abroad. We provide engineers and workers with employment opportunities; we gain new expertise; and we help our Arab brothers in any crisis to which they are exposed.

AT-TADAMUN: What is your view of Lebanon's present and future?

President Husni Mubarak: It is high time for the Lebanese parties to agree and safeguard the homeland's entity so that Lebanon will again become an independent and sovereign state. Lebanon has always been an area of struggle. In the past, the Arab states settled their scores on Lebanon's territory. Now the struggle has expanded and has become almost international. We the Arabs are the cause of this.

AT-TADAMUN: Does the Egyptian-Sudanese integration depend on Husni Mubarak and Ja'far Numayri? Why is unity not established between Egypt and Sudan?

President Husni Mubarak: Of course not. We are laying down a basis for integration among people. We could have declared an immediate unity, but we did not do this. Unity will happen automatically when integration becomes complete and the two people merge. If the two people do not want unity but are content with cooperation, this is up to them. It is important for me to point out that several Arab states may participate in the integration projects we and Sudan will be implementing when they realize that these projects are feasible.

AT-TADAMUN: Will Egypt's role in the Nonaligned Movement remain modest, as has been the case for some years, although it is a founding member of the movement?

President Husni Mubarak: Recently, we started reactivating Egypt's role in the Nonaligned Movement, and we will continue the reactivation process.

AT-TADAMUN: Is the current headquarters of the Arab League in Cairo a burden for the Egyptian taxpayer since an international tender has already been announced for building a permanent headquarters in Tunis?

President Husni Mubarak: The Arab League building was built a long time ago. It is not a burden on Egypt or on the taxpayer. The League spends from its own funds. If they want to build an Arab League in Tunis, they are free to do so. We do not impose our trusteeship on the Arab states. If they want the Arab League to be headquartered in Cairo, they are welcome. The building is ready after we abolished the [Arab and Islamic] People's League.

AT-TADAMUN: May we ask the president's permission to discuss again some domestic issues. There is a lot of speculation in Egypt about some figures — Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din, Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah, Dr Sufi Abu Talib. Can we ask further explanations about them?

President Husni Mubarak: Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din works day and night and is completely free from fault or blame. Despite this, he is under attack because they consider him from the men of President as-Sadat. This is not true because As-Sadat did not appoint him prime minister, but I appointed him to that post. My only yardstick is production — how much a person offers for the homeland. Does he work for the public interest or for his personal interest? He who works for his personal interest, I tell him this frankly.

People's Assembly Speaker Dr Sufi Abu Talib is an elected person. They elected him speaker for 4 years. Whether or not they will elect him again is another subject.

Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah is one of the heroes of the October war. He is a defense minister and is free from any fault or blame.

AT-TADAMUN: The Consultative Council in Egypt is neither a U.S. Senate nor a British House of Lords. Is there an inclination to change its present role in the future?

President Husni Mubarak: I cannot say anything because we have not discussed this subject yet.

AT-TADAMUN: Can we have some figures on the percentage of Arab investment in Egypt compared with Western investment?

President Husni Mubarak: Over 60 percent of investment is Egyptian. The Arab and Western investment does not exceed 35 percent.

AT-TADAMUN: You are known to be strict with your children because of your public position to the extent that no one even knows their names or their studies. Can we hear from you how you treat your children and how you spend your vacation with them?

President Husni Mubarak: When I have no work I spend the time with my children. This is natural. We are of a conservative family and do not like publicity. Experience confirms my view. I have been treating my children on this basis and nothing has changed.

AT-TADAMUN: Husni Mubarak is not Anwar as-Sadat and not Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir. Nevertheless, he is loyal to 'Abd an-Nasir and to As-Sadat. How did you achieve this equation?

President Husni Mubarak: 'Abd an-Nasir and As-Sadat served their homeland and changed the face of history. Every leader has his mistakes. There are things for and things against him. This is the nature of man. 'Abd an-Nasir led the revolution and changed Egypt's map. He exerted many efforts for various national, pan-Arab, and international questions. We cannot forget him. I did not work with President 'Abd an-Nasir because I was merely an ordinary officer. President as-Sadat exerted great efforts in the October War and in the question of liberalization. He was a great leader. I must not deny this or be ungrateful. They deserve all the credit from Egypt like other leaders such as 'Urabi, Sa'd Zaghlul, and others who spared no efforts for Egypt. We must not deny our leaders as this is against our values and ethics. If a minority insults this or that leader for personal reasons this is not a good thing.

AT-TADAMUN: Egyptian-Soviet relations passed through a phase similar to relaxation. Many have set a date for exchanging ambassadors, but the official attack against the results of the elections recently held in Egypt appeared as if it were a Soviet attempt to abort this rapprochement. Why?

President Husni Mubarak: Relations still exist, but there are no ambassadors in both capitals. When we are certain that no interference exists in our domestic affairs we will return the ambassadors. The Soviet Union is a great power which we cannot ignore. When they attacked the Consultative Council's elections we became certain that they were still interfering in our domestic affairs. The return of ambassadors is linked with their noninterference in our domestic affairs, and such statements are considered as interference.

AT-TADAMUN: Would the interference not stop if the ambassadors returned?

President Husni Mubarak: How can I guarantee this? The ambassadors' return must be based on sound foundations. In any case there are trade relations which I have not suspended and which are improving.

AT-TADAMUN: You have met with King Hassan II in New York. You have contacts with King Husayn. You have relations with President Saddam Husayn. You have integration with President Numayri. You also have presented condolences on the death of King Khalid. Your relations with Sultan Qabus, Somali President Siad Barre, Djibouti President Hassan Gouled are normal. Your stance regarding the legitimate authority in Lebanon is positive and your stand toward Syria is characterized with much understanding. The contacts between Tripoli and Cairo were uninterrupted for a long time and the lines are open with the PLO. Therefore, what prevents you from attending the Arab summit conference in Riyadh even without an invitation in your capacity as a partner with whom the majority are dealing and everybody is relying on?

President Husni Mubarak: I have relations with all the Arab states. I know all the presidents, kings, and shaykhs except

President Chadli Bendjedid who I hear is a balanced and sincere person. I respect him for that. As to the remaining Arab states, I have mentioned my relations with their leaders are continuing. I know them all from Shaykh Zayid to the amirs of Bahrain, Qatar, and the amir of Kuwait. I know them all and my relations with them are good; there are no problems with any of them. To impose myself on the summit conference, I do not believe that anyone would accept this for Egypt. Egypt is the greatest Arab state. Do you want me to attend and then anyone could stand up and speak badly about Egypt. The Egyptian people will not accept this. The people will not accept that I attend the conference and hear insults against Egypt and against the Egyptian president. Those who ask whether Egypt is returning to the Arabs or the Arabs are returning to Egypt are just uttering words. I say that my hands are extended and that I am prepared to go to any Arab president or king on condition that this would not embarrass him. I would like to explain that I have no sensitivity toward any person. I have known Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad very well since he was a pilot here and I knew him when I was the vice president. We used to sit together and talk frankly. I know King Fahd and Prince 'Abdallah very well. I also know King Husayn very well, and we talk frankly on all subjects. As for Egypt's return to the Arabs or the Arabs return to Egypt, I see no difference in that. Egypt is not staying away from the Arab states.

Egypt has and continues to make great efforts for the Arab cause whether or not it is asked to do so. This is Egypt's duty and commitment toward the Palestine question. We were the ones who turned the Palestine question from a question of refugees into a question of people. We are still defending the Palestine question. Although at times when I deliver a speech for Egypt at an international meeting, some delegates leave the session. I will continue to defend the Palestine question from the position of Egypt's commitment to this question. This does not disturb us and does not frighten us.

AT-TADAMUN: You have mentioned the names of most kings and presidents, but not that of Yasir 'Arafat. What can you do for him?

President Husni Mubarak: I declare on every occasion that 'Arafat is one of the most moderate leaders of the PLO. I help 'Arafat as much as I can.

At the end of President Husni Mubarak's interview with *AT-TADAMUN* magazine conducted by chief editor Fu'ad Matar, the chief editor writes: At the end of this interview, I asked President Husni Mubarak whether he has a message to address to the Arabs from the ocean to the Gulf through *AT-TADAMUN*. The president addressed the following message:

Our Arab brothers: The differences and exchanges of insults will disappear sooner or later and human relations will remain. We may argue today, but we will reconcile tomorrow and at the end we are all Arabs. Let us renounce the differences and sit together to come to an agreement. Let us agree on the kind of differences for the sake of our interests as Arabs and for the sake of our cause.

Foreign Ministry Source on Palestinian Clashes

NC031520 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1419 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] Cairo, 3 Nov (MENA) — A Foreign Ministry official spokesman stated that Egypt follows with extreme concern reports from Tripoli on the widening clashes within the Palestinian movement, and also reports on the intervention of non-Palestinian forces in these clashes. The spokesman said Egypt again appeals to all the Palestinian sides to take into account the serious results that will ensue from this confrontation which will prove destructive for the Palestinian cause and the Palestinian people in the occupied territories. The source added that Egypt demands that all the foreign parties stop interfering in Palestinian domestic affairs. Furthermore, Egypt reaffirms the pressing need for a unified Arab solution to save the Palestinian movement from the dangers that it is facing.

AL-AHRAM Views U.S. Policy in Lebanon

PM031015 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 28 Oct 83 p 4

[Salamah Ahmad Salamah "Significance of Events" column: "Preserving Whose Safety?"]

[Excerpts] There is no need to pause too long over the question preoccupying the four countries participating in the Multinational Force [MNF], foremost among which are the United States and France, as to who could be behind the recent explosions that reduced the headquarters of the U.S. and French forces to rubble, burying scores of bodies, and as to whether a particular state, community, group, or organization is behind this tragic incident. This is because nobody — not even the CIA — can claim to know everything about what is going on in Lebanon.

But what is important is to look at the reasons that led to this incident and its significance and to try to understand the motives that led to it and tempted its perpetrators to carry it out in the midst of fierce fighting between warring communities that have been forced to be the victims of a regional conflict which is the Arab-Israeli conflict on one hand and the U.S.-Soviet conflict on the other.

What happened was bound to happen in order to prove to U.S. policy and Western policy in general that to try to detach the Lebanese problem from the general framework of the Middle East crisis and the seeds of a potential explosion known as the Palestine problem is a futile attempt and will produce no results in either the short term or the long term. It is like trying to cure a serious disease with palliatives that do not eradicate the root cause of the disease nor cure it. When President Reagan proposed his initiative 13 months ago, following the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and the Palestinian resistance's departure from there, its basic aim was to find a way to take Lebanon out of the equation of the Middle East conflict and to protect Israel's rear in its confrontation with Syria. This is evident from the fact that U.S. enthusiasm for the plan immediately cooled once the Jordanian-Palestinian talks met with the first stumbling block. In fact the enthusiasm cooled long before that, and there was no sincere intention to make Israel accept the initiative or to encourage the Palestinians, through certain measures and steps, to deal with it. On the other hand, U.S. policy with strong determination

— like a blindfolded bull — went on to complete the Lebanese-Israeli agreement without looking around for the various other factors that influence Lebanon and the area.

Such ill-considered solutions are bound to lead to unsatisfactory, distorted results. Indeed, they are bound to lead to constant failures, which is the situation that U.S. policy is now facing in Lebanon and the Middle East. President Reagan's plan failed before it was announced and the Lebanese-Israeli agreement failed a few months after it was signed. The peace-keeping mission which the United States has undertaken in order to enable Al-Jumayyil's government to impose its authority and sovereignty is about to face a similar fate and the European role, represented by the French, Italian, and British forces, is also in doubt and bound to face the same consequences.

First: President Reagan's policy has once again involved the Middle East area — taking also into consideration the Iraq-Iran war — in the crisis of the tense East-West relations and U.S.-Soviet relations. The Middle East problem, with its complications represented in the current Lebanese crisis and the chronic Palestinian problem, has become an element in the new cold war whose scope is now expanding to include the question of nuclear missile deployment in Europe, the inflamed situation in Central America (Nicaragua and El Salvador) and the recent U.S. invasion of Grenada, with token participation by some Caribbean countries, in addition to a long list of wars and acute crises here and there.

There is no doubt that the predominant consideration of the regional and international problems, including the Middle East problem, from the narrow viewpoint of the U.S.-Soviet conflict has contributed to disregard of many of the objective factors governing the Lebanese crisis and the Palestine problem. The fear, or the pretense of fear, that the area will fall into Soviet hands and the charge that Syria is opening the door to Soviet infiltration and obstructing the establishment of peace in Lebanon have been the cause of many mistaken actions and hasty decisions in search of strategic cooperation with Israel and of the ideal method to form a rapid deployment force to defend the Gulf at a time when the whole area is plunging deeper into a state of disruption and collapse.

Second: U.S. weakness before Israel has enabled the Israeli policy of hegemony to achieve its objectives at a stroke. Israel has halted the peace process, forced the Palestinians to leave Lebanon, captured southern Lebanon, and then lured the U.S. forces into a deadly trap which it is difficult to escape. The tendency in U.S. policy to satisfy Israel's demands at the expense of stability and peace in the area invalidates and greatly reduces the credibility of U.S. accusations that Syria is the stumbling block to peace. It is illogical of the United States to allow Israel to occupy Lebanon or a part of it yet demand that Syria withdraw its forces from Lebanon first. It is illogical that the MNF should be biased toward the Phalange party at the expense of the other communities and yet expect peace and stability to be established in lebanon.

The ultimate outcome of all these frustrations was bound to lead to these suicidal operations against the U.S. and French forces in Lebanon.

The immediate question now is what will be the reaction of the United States, France, and the other countries participating in the MNF in the face of these events and what plan will their foreign ministers meeting in Paris agree upon?

We do not expect the Americans and the French to understand that what happened in Lebanon was a rejection of the U.S. and French role. But we would expect the U.S. Administration to consolidate its presence in Lebanon and to take drastic security measures against the forces and the powers which the United States has unofficially accused of perpetrating the incident, namely Syria, Iran and the Soviet Union. It is not very reassuring to hear reports that the United States is taking steps to take control of the Strait of Hormuz. What is dangerous about the situation is that the battle lines separating the conflicting fronts are close and almost intertwined. What it to be feared most is the likelihood that the MNF may turn into a fighting force separated from the Soviet military experts in Syria by only a few miles. What happened in Grenada could be repeated in Syria. What sort of peace mission would this be?

Commander Reports 30,000 Iranian Casualties

JN031014 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0845 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] Baghdad, 3 Nov (INA) — A military commander has disclosed that the Iraqi forces had used new sophisticated weapons and effective combat styles in destroying large Iranian concentrations during their confrontation of the recent Iranian aggression in the northern sector.

In a press statement published here today, the commander of the I Army Corps said that the Iranian forces had sustained 30,000 dead and a very large number of wounded during the recent offensive. He added that the Iraqi forces' losses were very small.

He pointed out that the Iranians had used five regular divisions, in addition to a large number of armor and Khomeyni guards, to attack five Iraqi brigades. Thus, one Iranian division fought one Iraqi brigade.

He indicated that the special forces had carried out successful landing operations behind the enemy lines and positions and managed to destroy several units. He said that the Iraqi helicopter gunships had for the first time carried out night combat operations, dealing fatal blows to the aggressors.

The military commander said that the Iraqi forces had prevented the Iranian forces from acheiving their aim, that is, the occupation of the border village of Panjwin. He added that the Iraqi forces closed all roads leading from northern, eastern, and southern Panjwin to the two Iranian cities of Sanandaj and Kermanshah, thus preventing the transfer of the wounded Iranians to the interior.

He said the recent battles had given new military experience to the Iraqi forces. These forces, he said, had managed to isolate a large number of the Iranian forces and used new tactics which enabled them to rip apart five Iranian divisions.

He expected a new Iranian offensive in the northern sector and stressed that the Iraqi forces would confront any new aggression harshly and violently and inflict large losses.

Communique No 1,268

JN031820 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1705 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Communique No 1,268 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 3 November 1983]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Or we shall show thee that which we have promised them: for verily we shall prevail over them. [Koranic verse]

O glorious Iraqi, O jealous sons of the Arab nation, O heroes of the I Army Corps sector. After more than 3 years of grinding battle and epoch-making fighting against the spiteful Iranian forces, the sons of our great people and valiant Armed Forces are continuing to affirm that they are the invincible, steadfast force. On the other side, we witness day after day the evil spirit and the dire, barbaric, and aggressive trend of the demented Iranian rulers who are motivated by their racist rancor and their bestial desires for killing and destruction, showing their hatred to their people, humanity, and the rules of dignified life.

O noble men everywhere. After our forces destroyed the forces of the Khomeyniite invasion which had been trying over the past few days to invade our territory in the northern sector of the front, and after the enemy forces' abject failure and the immense losses they sustained during recent battles, the bloodthirsty Khomeyniite regime, which is submerged in crimes, has again tried its bad luck with the brave sons of Iraq.

After midnight on 2-3 November 1983, the enemy launched a new aggression against our valiant forces in the Panjwin area in the I Army Corps sector. Our alert forces confronted the unjust enemy offensive and fought it with significant capability and courage. Our forces clashed with it in fierce battles last night and today, using all kinds of weapons. Our triumphant armies have been able to contain and limit the enemy offensive and are destroying it, inflicting on the enemy forces heavy losses in men, weapons, and equipment.

On the other hand, our forces mounted determined counterattacks against enemy units, inflicting very immense losses and killing, wounding, and capturing a great number of enemy troops. Our brave units still continue to strike at enemy troops and are crushing and annihilating the rest of the enemy forces. We will inform you of the details of the battle developments and the enemy losses and defeats at a later time.

During their brave confrontation of the enemy offensive, our Air Force planes carried out daring operations and continuous missions with the support of our helicopter gunships. All day today our planes and helicopters continued to attack enemy units and troop and equipment concentrations in the same sector, inflicting immense losses in men and equipment. Other formations of our fighter planes launched fierce attacks against enemy targets deep inside enemy territory, scoring very effective, direct hits. Flames and dense columns of smoke were seen rising from enemy vehicles and equipment covering several enemy positions and troop concentrations. All our fighter planes and helicopter gunships returned safely to base, thanks be to God, with the exception of one fighter plane which fell over enemy positions. We hold the Iranian side responsible for the pilot's safety. Our fighters today carried out 100 combat missions and our helicopter gunships 106 missions.

Thus, Iraq will remain an asset for the Arab nation and a powerful force against its enemies, facing the covetous enemies with higher morale and a firmer position, and strongly believing that the enemies of truth, justice, and peace can reap only more frustration and the curses of God and history.

God is great. Glory to great Iraq and victory to its daring army. Humiliation and ignominy to the suspect Khomeyniite regime which goes form one defeat to another and from one frustration to another frustration.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 3 November 1983.

Commander Updates Developments

JN040755 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0730 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] Northern sector, 4 Nov (INA) — An Iraqi military commander has announced that the Iraqi forces are besieging groups of the Iranian forces which attacked Iraq's international borders in the Panjwin area at midnight the day before yesterday.

The I Army Corps commander told an INA correspondent on the battlefield at dawn today that these groups [words indistinct] while trying to penetrate the Iraqi forces' defense positions. He indicated that three regular infantry divisions took part in the new aggression.

The Iraqi commander said that the attacking Iranian formations consisted of the 8th, 31st, and 27th divisions, in addition to the 1st and 2d Brigades of the 28th Infantry Division, and a brigade of the Khomeyni Guards.

The Army corps commander described the Iraqi units' confrontation of the new Iranian offensive as firm and daring. He added that after containing the Iranian offensive, the Iraqi forces launched a successful quick counterattack which inflicted large human losses on the Iranians. He pointed out that clashes are still going on with all types of weapons.

ATH-THAWRAH on Offensive

JN040836 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0740 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] Baghdad, 4 Nov (INA) — The newspaper *ATH-THAWRAH* says that thousands of Iranians were killed and columns of vehicles were destroyed during the early hours of the new Iranian offensive in the northern area of Panjwin.

In a report from the battlefield published today, the paper says that the new Iranian aggression was aimed at occupying the hills overlooking the border village of Panjwin and at isolating the Iraqi units in the region.

The paper cites a responsible military source as saying that the Iraqi forces have foiled this aggression and crushed all the human waves, vehicles, and armor which the aggressors used in their desperate adventure.

The paper indicates that the Iraqi I Army Corps forces annihilated the major part of the attacking Iranian force and launched a counterattack. It also reports that yesterday's battles were marked by splendid coordination among all the Iraqi Army corps. This coordination, it adds, resulted in repulsing the attackers, destroying their weapons, dealing with their thrust, and striking at their points of concentration and supply lines at the borders and deep inside Iran.

The paper says that the Iraqi fighter planes, helicopter gunships, and armor participated in foiling the aggression and preventing the enemy from expanding the combat area and moving under the cover of night toward the target which it failed to achieve during the last 2 weeks' battles.

Deputy Prime Minister Receives YAR Minister

JN031341 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, received Muhammad Hizan Shuhati, YAR minister of economy and industry, this morning. During the meeting Ramadan expressed Iraq's satisfaction with the developing relations between the two brotherly countries as well as the appreciation and pride of Iraq's command and people for the YAR stand in support of Iraq's defensive war against the malicious Khomeyniite regime's aggression. He expressed Iraq's readiness to defend its land and inflict defeats on the Iranian regime's forces and vital economic targets every time the regime escalates its aggression against Iraq. Alluding to the UN Security Council's resolution and Iraq's commitment to it, he reaffirmed Iraq's concern and readiness to respond to any effort aimed at stopping the spilling of blood. Touching on Iraq's economic situation, he said: The big contribution several states and companies made to the 20th Baghdad International Fair at a time when we are in a state of war reflects high confidence in our economy and affirms the concern and desire of these states and companies to cooperate with Iraq. He asked the minister to convey his greetings to YAR Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-'Iryani, asserting Iraq's concern over developing its relations with the brotherly YAR in order to serve pan-Arab issues.

Shuhati expressed delight at his meeting with President Saddam Husayn and spoke highly of the president's important speech to the heads of the delegations participating in the 20th Baghdad Fair. During the meeting, he conveyed the YAR prime minister's greetings to Ramadan and reaffirmed his country's support for Iraq and the deployment of all his country's potential in support of Iraq, which is defending its sovereignty and the Arab nation's future. He hailed the great victories of leader Saddam Husayn's soldiers over the Iranian aggressors and said: These victories are victories for all Arabs who are loyal to their Arabism.

The Yemeni ambassador in Baghdad attended the meeting, during which the current Arab and international situation was discussed.

Jordanian, GDR Ministers Conclude Visits

JN031510 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] Baghdad — Jordan's Economy and Trade Minister Walid 'Asfur and GDR Minister for Construction Wolfgang Junker left Baghdad this morning after attending the opening of the 20th Baghdad International Fair.

In a statement to INA, 'Asfur said that the fair reflects the strength of the Iraqi economy and the soundness of planning despite the circumstances of the aggressive war which is being waged by the infidel Iranian regime. He added that President Saddam Husayn's speech to the delegations attending the fair's opening session reflects Iraq's humanitarian outlook, international responsibility, and serious desire to achieve peace.

Junker expressed satisfaction with the talks which he held with Iraqi officials, noting that these talks will strengthen and develop the relations of cooperation in all fields and will serve the interests of the two friendly countries.

They were seen off at the airport by Muhammad Fadil Husayn, minister of housing and reconstruction; Hisham Hasan Tawfiq, minister of finance; and the Jordanian and GDR ambassadors in Baghdad.

UN Official Speaks on Israeli Attack on Reactor

JN031500 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] United Nations —A member of the Iraqi delegation delivered a speech at the meetings of the UN General Assembly, which resumed its discussion of the Zionist aggression against Iraq's peaceful nuclear installations in June 1981. He referred to a draft Arab resolution that harshly denounces the Zionist entity for rejecting to subject its nuclear installations to international control and supervision.

At the beginning of his speech, he rated highly the report prepared by experts on the results of the armed Zionist aggression against Iraq's peaceful nuclear installations and said: The study conducted by experts from Sweden, Yugoslavia, the USSR, India, the United States, and Nigeria has totally supported the stand of the UN General Assembly, fully indicted Israel, and considers the Israeli aggression as not being directed particularly against Iraq, but against international laws and norms, particularly the IAEA laws and principles. He added that the Zionist enemy would destroy the Iraqi nuclear reactor once again if Iraq rebuilds it.

King Husayn Cables Arab Leaders on Tripoli War

JN031644 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn today sent a cable to the Arab kings, presidents, and amirs concerning the dangers threatening the PLO as a result of the offensive to which the Palestinian forces in Tripoli, north Lebanon, have been exposed since the early hours of today. The following is the text of the cable:

Peace and blessings of God be upon you. Today, we in Jordan received the painful, deplorable reports about the dangers that are threatening the PLO legitimate leadership and fighters who have not yet conceded their will, surrendered their banner, or bargained over their genuine Arab Palestinian affiliation with the forces that are pursuing them and tightening the siege around them in the Nahr al-Barid and Al-Baddawi camps and in Tripoli and its environs — forces that are raising arms against the Arabs, and in the name of the Arabs, and at the same time, are shelling men, women, and children.

Jordan has warned that it would not accept the usurpation of the free Arab Palestinian will so it may become an echo of the policy of others — a policy which reflects everything that is odd and unusual.

Receiving the appeal of the commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution, we would like to call on our respected brothers to cooperate together so as to immediately stop what is taking place and to speak the truth concerning any unacceptable development in the Arab region. The Arab territories have not yet become so small that these Palestinian brothers cannot find for themselves a secure area on which they can live in freedom and dignity.

Earlier, PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat sent letters to the Arab heads of state and the leaders of the Islamic and nonaligned states appealing for their intervention to halt the Syrian aggression against the Palestinian people and forces — an aggression which may result in a new massacre of the Palestinian and Lebanese people in northern Lebanon.

Foreign Ministry Statement on Iraq-Iran War

JN031615 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1445 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] Amman, 3 Nov (PETRA) — A responsible source in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has stated the following:

The war between Iraq and Iran has entered its 4th year, imposing on both sides grave losses in men and material. It has hindered the two countries' development projects and has been a constant threat to the security of both countries and the region. The war has also increased the possibility of foreign power intervention.

In view of the destructive results of this war, which has been raging between two neighboring Muslim countries, and its harmful effect on the region's security and world peace, ceaseless efforts have been exerted by the ICO, the Nonaligned Movement, and the UN secretary general, as well as the good offices of various other organizations, to stop the bloodshed and end the war on the basis of a peaceful, honorable settlement that would preserve the legitimate rights and interests of both sides and establish relations between them on the basis of good neighborliness and mutual respect and the noninterference of one party in the affairs of the other.

Despite Iraq's positive response to all of these efforts for peace, Iran has not responded to these efforts which call for stopping the bloodshed and preserving the region against possible foreign intervention. We in Jordan hope that Iran will revise its position in light of the recent UN Security Council Resolution No 540 issued on 31 October 1983. This resolution included, among other things, a series of measures which were meant to respond to some demands which Iran insisted on. Regrettably, Iran rejected this international resolution — which is the fourth by the Security Council to this effect — and ignored Iraq's immediate acceptance of and readiness to implement it. Moreover, Iran today launched a new aggression against Iraqi territory in order to confirm its rejection of peace.

In view of all this, the international community is today called upon, more than ever before, to put its weight and all its resources in the service of peace and to create circumstances that would forces Iran to respond to the peace demands. The international community is called upon to stop this destructive conflict which threatens not only Iraq and Iran, but the entire region as well because of the foreign intervention which the continuation of the war makes possible.

Klibi Arrives in Amman; Meets With Al-Qasim

JN032016 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] Amman — Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim received at his office this evening Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi. The talks dealt with the Arab situation and the developments in the Palestinian question.

Al-Qasim stressed Jordan's concern about Arab solidarity and the need for holding the Arab summit on its scheduled date. He also pointed out Jordan's viewpoint on what is taking place in the Palestinian arena, particularly in Lebanon.

Al-Qasim hosted a dinner banquet in honor of Klibi. The banquet was attended by 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, information minister; Hasan Ibrahim, minister of occupied territories affairs; and a number of officials.

Klibi arrived in Amman this evening on a 2-day visit to Jordan, during which he will hold talks with senior Jordanian officials.

In a statement to a PETRA correspondent, Klibi expressed pleasure with visiting Jordan, pointing out that this visit is within the framework of the continuous consultations of the Arab League to prepare for the coming Arab summit in coordination with Saudi Arabia, the summit's host state. He said that he is looking forward to meeting His Majesty King Husayn to learn from his wise opinions on the proposed issues in the Arab arena.

Klibi's visit to Jordan is within the framework of an Arab tour to prepare for the coming Arab summit.

Britain's Richard Luce Arrives on Visit 3 Nov

JN032036 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] Richard Luce, British minister of state for the foreign and commonwealth office, arrived in Amman this evening via King Husayn Bridge on a 3-day visit to Jordan. Luce told journalists that during his visit he will hold talks with Jordanian officials on current issues in the region and the relations between the two countries.

Luce said that the British Government is still committed to achieving peace in the Middle East. He noted that Britain cannot force peace on any of the sides. He added that the European countries can play a major role in achieving peace in the region.

Luce was met by the secretary general of the Foreign Ministry, the deputy chief of protocol, the director of the European Department at the Foreign Ministry, the British ambassador in Amman, and a number of officials.

Prince Hasan Receives Luce

JN040722 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] His Highness Crown Prince Hasan received at his office this evening Richard Luce, British minister of state for the foreign and commonwealth office. They discussed the current situation in the region, especially the Palestinian situation.

Prince Hasan briefed the guest minister on the sufferings of the kinfolk in the occupied Arab territories due to the arbitrary Israeli actions which are represented by the establishemnt of the Israeli settlements and Israel's continued attempts to obliterate the historic and cultural features of the holy city.

During meeting, the two sides discussed bilateral relations. The meeting was attended by the British ambassador in Amman.

Israelis Retaliate for Attack on Center 4 Nov

Explosion 'Rocked' Tyre

NC040546 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0527 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] At 0400 today, a violent explosion rocked an Israeli military center in Tyre. Immediately afterward, the Israeli forces cordoned off the scene of the explosion which is near the Lebanese Army barracks in the town. The sound of gunfire and explosions can still be heard. The Lebanese Internal Security Forces were prevented from reaching the scene of the explosion which rocked the town.

Booby-Trapped Car Caused Explosion

NC040646 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0645 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] We have just received the following security report from our news desk:

The report pertains to the Tyre explosion.

At 0825, the Israeli forces cut the road near the Al-Awwali bridge for traffic in both directions. At the same time, the director of the civil defense directorate in Beirut, Nazih Sham'un instructed ambulances and fire enginees to leave immediately for the [Israeli] military governor's headquarters as some 20 Lebanese families have suffered from the explosion. Initial reports said that a booby-trapped car laden with explosives dashed into the building despite all the defensive lines around the building.

Military Center Completely Destroyed

NC040648 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0630 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Telephone dispatch by editorial desk reporter Su'ad — live]

[Text] With regard to the explosion at the Israeli headquarters on the Tyre-Qana road this morning, we have received reports that the building consists of two floors, and it was destroyed completely. The Israeli military governor has asked the Lebanese civil defense to assist in the rescue operations. Indeed, elements of the civil defense from the Sidon, An-Nabatiyah, Jazzin, and Tyre centers proceeded to the totally destroyed building to participate in the rescue operations. So far there are no reports about the number of Israeli soldiers killed in the incident.

The Israeli forces closed the road in both direction sto traffic at the Al-Awwali bridge. Eyewitnesses said that the Israeli army placed concrete blocks at the crossing point to close the road.

We have also learned that a booby-trapped vehicle drove into the command headquarters at 0600 today.

In another development, Civil Defense Director Nazih Sham'un has announced that six civil defense vehicles reached the Tripoli refinery at the request of the prime minister. He announced that the fire there will be put out very soon.

Israeli Officers, Governor Killed

NC040659 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0650 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] We have just received the following security report from the news desk:

We have been informed by unofficial security sources that a number of [Israeli] officers, in addition to the Israeli military governor, have been killed under the demolished building. It is recalled that the two-story building covers well over 600 square meters. Israeli helicopters are now seen airlifting the dead and wounded from the scene of the explosion. Elements of Sa'd Haddad's national guard are participating in the rescue operations.

Israelis Impose Curfew

NC040704 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0651 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Telephone dispatch by editorial desk reporter Su'ad — live]

[Text] With regard to the report about the explosion at the Israeli building on the Qana-Tyre road this morning, we have learned that the Israeli forces have imposed a curfew in Tyre for 3 days, beginning today. Military vehicles roamed the streets announcing the curfew decision. According to new information about the incident, the booby-trapped vehicle which stormed into the Israeli command building was loaded with no less than 50-kg of dynamite. The citizens said that they heard another explosion at 0615 and a third at 0625. Local residents reported that explosions continued to be heard until 0830. It is believed that they were the result of ammunition store explosions.

Regarding the casualties, the residents affirmed that a large number of people were killed and wounded. Ambulances were seen rushing to the area. Several helicopters were also seen landing nearby to assist in the evacuation of the casualties. The residents also said that it is believed that a number of prisoners being held by the Israeli forces were among the dead and wounded.

'Islamic Jihad' Claims Credit

NC040827 Paris AFP in English 0824 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] Beirut, Nov 4 (AFP) — The "Islamic Jihad" (Islamic Holy War) organisation today claimed to have carried out an attack with a truck packed with explosives on the Israeli military headquarters in Tyre and warned that it would have a "big surprise" shortly. That organisation also claimed to have carried out the attacks, also by booby-trapped trucks, which destroyed the U.S. and French military headquarters in Beirut two weeks ago, as well as the U.S. Embassy here last April.

An anonymous telephone caller said that the suicide attack had been carried out by members of the "Islamic Jihad" as a response to arrests made by Israeli security forces in southern Lebanon, as well as Israeli threats to occupy the whole of southern Lebanon if its May accord with Lebanon on troop withdrawals is revoked by the Beirut government. "We are ready to send 2,000 suicide volunteers to south Lebanon to save our country from the Zionist enemy," the caller said.

We are prepared to launch operations anywhere in the world. Wait for a big surprise from us shortly."

KUNA: 150 Dead, Wounded

LD040853 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0842 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Excerpt] Urgent — Beirut, 4 Nov (KUNA) — The number of casualties among the Israeli forces has now risen to over 150 dead and wounded as a result of the 2 explosions which occurred at the headquarters of the Israeli military governor and at the command of the Israeli forces in the city of Tyre this morning.

Security sources told KUNA that about 200 Israeli soldiers, including a large number of officers, in addition to a number of Palestinian and Lebanese detainees were in the two buildings.

Moshe Arens Inspects Site

NC040923 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0917 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Excerpt] The latest reports that the Voice of Lebanon has just received on the Tyre explosion indicate that Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Arens along with a number of senior officers arrived a short time ago at the explosion site aboard an Israeli helicopter.

VOL on Rescue Operations

NC041027 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1017 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Excerpt] Our correspondent in the south has just supplied us with the following report:

The civil defense squad managed to extinguish the fire that broke out in the building adjacent to the Israeli intelligence headquarters. The rubble removal operations are still continuing. The Israeli forces sought the help of civilian bulldozers and vehicles.

Israeli helicopters are now transporting the Israeli military and civilian casualties to Israel.

Israeli 'Squadrons' Attack Bhamdun

NC041051 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1040 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] I have just received the following report: Security sources have reported that at 1210 today squadrons of Israeli aircraft, each comprising four planes, carried out raids on the Bhamdun and Bhamdun ad-Day'ah areas.

Syrian Emplacements Destroyed

NC041120 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1118 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] The latest reports on the Israeli raids indicate that the Israeli warplanes succeded in destroying three Syrian artillery emplacements in Mansuriyat Bhamdun.

RFL on Israeli Raids

NC041157 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1147 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] The immediate Israeli retaliation for the Tyre operation was expected, because Israel can never remain idle for such terrorist operations. No sooner had the Tyre operation occurred than the Isreli warplanes began carrying out successive raids on the Syrian and Palestinian positions as well as on other positions in Bhamdun. The raids began at around 1210 and ended at around 1300 with a raid on military operations in Btatir. This raid was preceded by raids on artillery emplacements on Ruwaysat an-Nu'man. We point out here that the Israeli raids began with sudden attacks on the Palestinian positions in the area between Bhamdun and Mansuriyat Bhamdun.

Beirut Reports 50 Killed

NC041238 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] According to preliminary information received from security sources, there are 25 dead people inside the destroyed building believed to be Israelis and there are about 25 dead among the detainees.

AFP on Tyre Fatalities

NC041204 Paris AFP in English 1151 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] Sidon, Lebanon, 4 Nov (AFP) — One hundred Israeli soldiers were in the military headquarters at Tyre in southern Lebanon when it was wrecked by an explosion today, a military spokesman said here. He added that Lebanese and Palestinian prisoners were also in the building when it was rammed by a truck laden with explosives.

These figures conflict with those given in Jerusalem by the Israeli army personnel chief, General 'Amos Yaron, who said only 60 soldiers were in the building at the time. The spokesman confirmed three had been killed, 25 wounded and a further 32 reported missing.

The blast completely destroyed one wing and partly wrecked another of the building, which housed the residence of the Israeli military governor as well as Israeli intelligence headquarters, the military said.

The spokesman gave no indication of what the final death toll might be and was unable to say if anything had happened to the military governor.

He confirmed that the army had imposed a curfew around the area and closed the bridge over the Al-Awwali river to the north, behind which the army withdrew on September 4. He said the measure had been taken for security reasons, but hinted that it could be permanent. The closure had been repeatedly called for by Israeli officers who feared a new outbreak of attacks in southern Lebanon.

Al-Jumayyil Briefs Dialogue Session

NC041221 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in English 1214 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] In Geneva, President Amin al-Jumayyil interrupted the session of the Dialogue Conference to announce the Israeli bombardment of Syrian positions in Bhamdun, Sawfar, and 'Alayh. The session will be resumed later this afternoon. According to our sources, the Syrian foreign minister, 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam seemed undisturbed during the announcement.

Continuing Reportage on Geneva Conference

Session Considers 3 Proposals

NC031435 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Telephone dispatch by unidentified Information Ministry mission reporter from Geneva — live]

[Excerpts] The sixth session ended about 30 minutes ago. The atmosphere in it was good. The session began with an atmosphere created by the 17 May agreement issue. However, the discussions which took place were able to provide a better atmosphere. The information which we were able to gather up to now — as you know the committee members left the conference hall a short while ago — is that the question of the 17 May agreement dominated the discussions. In fact, it was the only subject. Prime Minister Rashid Karami proposed freezing the agreement as a prelude to abrogating it. He said that this proposal is in the name of the National Salvation Front. President Camille Sham'un then proposed that a national unity government be formed to study this agreement and decide its fate, because it is impossible in a moment, an hour or 2 hours to decide on such a fateful issue in view of the repercussions which may result from the abrogation of the treaty.

An extensive discussion took place on this subject. President Sham'un proposed, as we have already said, the formation of a national unity government to study the matter. Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam then discussed the matter. He wanted something in between the two proposals — between maintaining the agreement and reconsidering it. He wanted a formula that combines both.

President al-Jumayyil also spoke in this session. He explained in detail the agreement and the reasons which led Lebanon to conclude it. He pointed out that the failure of the president to sign the agreement until now means that the agreement is frozen, because it has not been ratified as the rules require.

After some deliberation, President Franjiyah proposed on his own behalf that President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil be given full authority to decide on the question of the agreement. He said that he is making this proposal on a personal basis. A discussion took place in which most of the conferees took part. The three proposals were the subject of profound study by the conferees. At the conclusion of the debate, it was decided that the members of the Dialogue Committee serve as a committee to study this subject. They will hold a meeting from 1700 to 1800 today, after which the delegation members will join the meeting. The proposal on which the conferees would have agreed will then be submitted at the plenary session for discussion and approval.

Before the conferees began discussing the 17 May agreement issue, they reaffirmed the need to prevent any security friction or cease-fire violations in the southern suburb and the mountain. There was an assurance by those present, particularly the parties concerned with this friction, on the need to prevent such things from taking place. Instructions were issued to avoid any security problems taking place, because this affects the dialogue in Geneva. I think that the fronts today were quieter than yesterday, particularly in the southern suburb and the mountain. As for what is happening in Tripoli, the conferees received with great concern the reports about the developments which are taking place in Tripoli. They are closely following the situation through the reports which are received at the situation room at the Inter-Continental Hotel in Geneva.

Delegation Heads Meet Separately

NC031622 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1538 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Telephone dispatch by Information Ministry mission member in Geneva — live]

[Text] Circles are viewing with utmost interest the meeting which began at 1615 Geneva time at President Amin al-Jumayyil's suite in the Inter-Continental Hotel. The meeting is attended by President Amin al-Jumayyil; National Salvation Front leaders Sulayman Franjiyah, Rashid Karami, and Walid Junblatt; and Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri. The meeting, as is known, is devoted to discussing the 17 May accord question prior to the seventh session of the conference due to begin at 1700 Geneva time. The first hour of the meeting will be restricted to the heads of the delegations. Meanwhile, contacts are continuing at several levels. Ambassador Fairbanks is now meeting with Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil. Some sources indicate that Ambassador Fairbanks will also meet with Rashid Karami.

Spokesman on May Accord

NC032057 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2010 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Telephone dispatch by unidentified Information Ministry mission member in Geneva — live]

[Excerpts] Faruq Jabr, spokesman of the National Dialogue Conference, held a meeting with reporters after tonight's session. Our colleague Samir Farah was at the reporters' room in the

Inter-Continental Hotel and reported Jabr's statement in Arabic, English, and French.

[Begin Jabr recording in English] In view of the conditions that have accompanied the signing of the agreement of May 17, 1983, and due to the international complications which might arise as a result of the continuation of the existing situation, the conference calls upon the President of the Lebanese Republic to take the necessary measures and to make the necessary international contacts with the view of ending the Israeli occupation and ensuring the complete sovereignty of Lebanon over its entire territory and ensuring Lebanon's independence [word indistinct] in all national areas. [end recording]

President Al-Jumayyil is now meeting with Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim to appraise some of the subjects raised at today's session. I also learned that tomorrow's session will be held at 1000 Geneva time. The session will be devoted to discussing a clause related to the consolidation of the cease-fire. This subject was not originally included on the agenda but the recent security developments made the conferees raise this question for discussion tomorrow to find a formula for consolidating the cease-fire following the setbacks recorded in various areas. The afternoon session will be devoted to exchanging working papers.

These working papers will be exchanged among the parties concerned — namely, the heads of the delegations, for study at a later conference. This means that the conference may conclude its work tomorrow if the exchange of the working papers is completed. The president of the republic will at a later time call for another session of the National Dialogue Conference, the venue of which will be agreed upon at tomorrow's session. These reports are still unconfirmed, but are being circulated by the information media sources here at the Inter-Continental Hotel in Geneva.

Conference Reopens, Discusses Tyre

NC041018 Paris AFP in English 1005 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] Geneva, Nov 4 (AFP) — The congress on national reconciliation for Lebanon reconvened here today, with heads of delegation scheduled to discuss consolidation of the September 25 ceasefire.

The attack today on Israeli military intelligence headquarters in Tyre dominated conversation among the delegations, although there was no official comment. The congress was also scheduled to debate the withdrawal of all non-Lebanese forces from the country — a reference to Syrians and Palestinians.

8th Session Ends

NC041145 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1117 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Telephone dispatch by unidentified Lebanese Information Ministry mission member in Geneva — live]

[Text] The eighth session of the National Dialogue Conference ended 2 minutes ago, that is 1215 Geneva time. Directly afterward President Amin al-Jumayyil left the meetings hall to make a protocol visit to the headquarters of the International Red Cross in Geneva.

Junblatt Interviewed on Geneva Conference Problems

PM041122 Rome LA REPUBBLICA in Italian 3 Nov 83 p 7

[Interview with Lebanese Druze leader Walid Junblatt by Guido Barendson on 2 November in Geneva]

[Excerpt] Geneva, 2 November — Question: Mr Junblatt, so at last you have reached an agreement.

Answer: Actually, you cannot talk about full agreement yet. We have adopted a resolution, it is true, but a more important problem arises right away: Who will guarantee the implementation of this and any other resolutions adopted in Geneva? Certainly not parliament, still less the president and the government. Perhaps we should involve almost everyone — Syrians, Saudis, and — why not? — even the Americans. Do you see what a problem it is? In fact we must start again from scratch. We can only reach a reconciliation by means of a total refounding of the constitution and of the so-called national pact of 1943. Let us be frank: It is a kind of constituent assembly that has met here. So we must start again from scratch; today's achievement is just a small step forward. Indeed, this is not the first time that we have established that ours is an Arab country. The innovation is that this morning this was acknowledged by the Christian forces, too. But that is not enough. Now we must see whether these same forces will also agree with everything deriving from the understanding. I repeat: This is the crucial problem that will determine Lebanon's future.

Question: With this document you have wrested from your enemies their commitment to promptly draw up a peace agreement with Israel, since Lebanon's "Arabness" and its confirmed membership of the Arab League would rule out any contact with the state of Israel.

Answer: That is another matter. The question of Lebanon's Arabness dates back to the last century, when Israel did not even exist. Today's agreement is purely internal, among Lebanese. We must resolve as soon as possible the question of the accord, which we consider incompatible with our Arabness. In any case the opposition is prepared to guarantee the Israelis peace in Galilee. But let us not forget that there are other serious obstacles. For instance, I still insist on the illegitimacy of Amin al-Jumayyil's regime.

Question: Why do you not recognize his authority and role as arbiter at this conference?

Answer: But I am fighting Amin with weapons, too. How can we recognize a president imposed on us at Israeli bayonet point, just as his brother Bashir was imposed on us? Amin was elected in parliament, but without my vote and my allies' votes. So I am being consistent.

Question: Is that why you are calling for a rearrangement of the tables at the conference?

Answer: Yes. Because Amin is at a table over whose proceedings he presumes to preside. But with what right, when we all know that he is directly involved in the war, up to his neck, and that he belongs to the Phalangist alignment? Just because there are two Lebanese flags at his side? Is he more Lebanese than we are?

Question: Mr Junblatt, a few minutes ago you slammed the door on the meeting.

Answer: The two Al-Jumayyils, father and son, are not very democratic, and I am beginning to tire of them. They presume to conduct the negotiations in Phalangist style, and during the meeting they prevented me from speaking on various pretexts. Furthermore, they are humiliating one of my friends, the Christian Franjiyah. They continually search him, as if he were a dangerous element. Why do they not try taking issue with me, or searching me? And yet they know full well that I carry a pistol even in my apartment before I attend meetings. The fact is that they want to humiliate Franjiyah because he is a Christian who thinks the same way as we do.

Question: How can negotiations continue in this atmosphere?

Answer: Ask the Phalangists. If we carry on this way there will no longer be an atmosphere in which we can reach an understanding. In that case we will have to leave.

Question: Let us take a step back. Is it true that U.S. envoy Fairbanks asked you here in Geneva to shelve the problem of the annulment of the agreement with Jerusalem to facilitate the conference's success?

Answer: We did not even discuss it. We talked mainly about domestic reforms. And for the first time the Americans seem in favor of some political change. We shall see.

Question: Will this initial opening-up not prompt you to soften your stance on the U.S. presence in the Beirut peace force?

Answer: I wonder what the Americans are doing in Beirut and Auq al-Gharb. They say that U.S. security is at stake. But what security? The truth is very different: the Americans are Israel's allies against the Lebanese people and therefore must leave. Come what may.

Question: How do you judge the role of the Italian and French peace force?

Answer: Actually the Italians and French are operating under Washington's tutelage. But there is a small difference: They have played a noble and generous vote in the protection of the Palestinians and Lebanese, to whom they have guaranteed a minimum degree of security in Sabra and Shatila. But, mind—unless they free themselves from U.S. tutelage they too must leave.

Security Arrangements Committee Views Cease-Fire

NC031830 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] The Security Arrangements Committee today discussed the developments in the security situation. The committee discussed the question of violations of the cease-fire in the mountain area and in Beirut's southern suburb. It reviewed the reasons behind these violations despite the current efforts to prevent them. The committee members agreed, as responsible officials, that they should not give up hope in remedying the situation despite all the difficulties they are facing in consolidating the cease-fire.

Concerning the presence of armed men in the UNRWA vocational centers in Siblin, the committee was informed that a positive written letter will be addressed to the UNRWA director through the committee. The committee followed up other issues dealing with water and power supplies, but the security situation overshadowed all other discussions. The committee will not meet tomorrow but contacts will be maintained among its members throughout the next 24 hours. The committee will meet again Saturday [5 Nov] morning.

AS-SIYASAH on Israeli Measures in South

GF032002 Kuwait AS-SIYASAH in Arabic 2 Nov 83 p 1

[Muhammad 'Anan dispatch from Beirut]

[Text] *AS-SIYASAH* has learned that the Israeli occupation forces in southern Lebanon have informed a number of Lebanese mayors and officials that they will dismantle all official state administrations in southern Lebanon and establish joint military-civil administrations which will run the affairs of the areas that they control. The Israeli military governor in Sidon told an official delegation which he met with that implementation of this Israeli step depends on the results of the Lebanese dialogue which is being held in Geneva and on Lebanon's official stance on 17 May agreement which was signed between the two government. Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil, who is currently in Geneva, was informed of this matter and immediately began a series of contacts which included senior U.S. officials.

Italian President Arrives in Beirut 4 Nov

NC041125 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1041 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] At 1225 today, the plane of Italian President Alessandro Pertini landed at the western runway of Beirut International Airport. He was received by Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan, in his capacity as foreign minister [as heard], and Army Commander General Ibrahim Tannus. Immediately after his arrival, the Italian president went to inspect the Italian contingent's positions.

Sa'd Haddad Speech on Situation in South

JN311912 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 1020 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Speech by Major Sa'd Haddad, leader of free Lebanon; to the Lebanese people — place not specified; live or recorded]

[Excerpts] My brothers the Lebanese, it gives me great pleasure to talk to you today. Many events are taking place in Lebanon these days. The Lebanese people must know what is happening [words indistinct] who are sacrificing their happiness, aspirations, property, lives, and blood. These people will continue to sacrifice more if they remain as they are until the Lebanese die out completely in Lebanon.

I am delighted to put the whole truth before the sons of my country so they may become acquainted with what is being prepared against them, why all this has happened to them, and how they can face the future. Besides, if [words indistinct] Lebanon or the Lebanese people will die out [words indistinct] under the sovereignty of another country. [passage indistinct]

I have good news for my brothers the Shi'ite. On the premise of the principles we announced earlier, which we will preserve forever, namely the repatriation of the evacuees to their own towns and the resumption of life [words indistinct] as we arranged for the repatration of the citizens of Al-Khayyam and Marun ar-Ra's as well as other towns. We told the evacuees then, let us begin a new era of love, patriotisim, and a real Lebanese reign. I want to tell the citizens of [word indistinct] and Yarin that as of Thursday you will be able to return to your towns and live there. We feel happy to see life revived in the destroyed and evacuated places.

The other subject is that some of the outbidders among men of religion and politicians are showing false zeal toward southern Lebanon. They talk about an uprising in southern Lebanon [words indistinct] they should not forget how the south was and how it is now, particularly regarding the issues of coexistence, national unity, relaxation, confidence [words indistinct]. People are happy, they go to work, and I cannot see any problem in the south. [Words indistinct] how they were in the past and how they are. The south represents the principles of coexistence, love, and unity. I will tell you something frankly: Those who are trying to instigate you are talking on the outside about uprisings and other things. These are persons who can be easily bought. They are persons who sow corruption on earth, whether they are men of religion or something else. [Words indistinct] their voices which sound like those of the devils and talk about the liberation of the south. Southern Lebanon is not occupied. I tell you that the south is not occupied. Let the Syrians and others leave and then you will see that Israel will unconditionally withdraw. I have definite promises concerning this. I would not have said this had I not been certain. If you are zealous about Lebanon look at what is happening in Ba'labakk, Tripoli, and the southern suburbs of Beirut. Where would the displaced persons go had southern Lebanon not existed? Ask yourselves where the displaced persons have gone? They came to southern Lebanon. The displaced persons from Ash-Shuf, Bhamdun, and the southern suburbs came to southern Lebanon.

Another thing, those talking about the uprising are actually a group of lunatics who do not know what they are doing. They place explosives here or there and [words indistinct] by Syria or others then they claim that they are Khomeyniites and that Khomeynism is against Zionism and against injustice. You should know something [words indistinct] had it not been for Israel, Iran and Khomeyni would not have survived. Had Israel not attacked the Iraqi nuclear reactor, Iran would have been ashes now because Iraq would have produced a nuclear bomb and dropped it first on Iran, thus Khomeyni and Iran would have been destroyed. Without the weapons and spare parts which were given to Iran by Israel, Iran would not have repulsed the Iraqis from the Iranian territory. Iraq could have completely destroyed Iran. The entire world has abandoned Iran and Khomeyni except for Israel. Therefore, do not listen and do not be affected by words about the destruction of Israel because these things are not true. What was the Syrian aid to Iran? Tell me if you know. It is only allowing people to go from Iran to Lebanon and vice versa. This is the Syrian aid to Iran. I ask you, representatives of the devils on earth, to return to God and behave like men of religion. Do not use your uniforms to cause harm to people. Let people live in peace and tranquillity. You are really ignorant. Can you not see that the official media are instigating against you? The media are saying that you are behind the events in the southern suburbs of Beirut. They are trying to prepare for carrying out an international strike against you. Southern Lebanon is in very good condition. Take care of your own problem there. Let us live in peace. Let the people take care of their future. Just learn that southern Lebanon will be the basic ground for Lebanon in the future. If you are really zealous about southern Lebanon, why do you not ask the rulers and others why they are not extending aid to southern Lebanon? Why do you not ask them about the financial aid donated for southern Lebanon? Where does the money donated for the aid of the displaced go? There are 50,000 displaced citizens from all sectors. The aid donated for helping these displaced goes to the Swiss banks.

Now we come to the primary subject about which I want to talk, namely the dialogue. Stop talking about dialogue and other nonsense. As long as everyone gets his own interests he will not talk about anything else. They have been telling you that they would go to Geneva. Those talking about Geneva and the dialogue have accounts in almost all the banks in Switzerland. [Words indistinct] They are actually giving an anesthetic to these poor people, who are desperately building hopes about what is being said to them. If there were a state and head of a state, he would not have accepted the talk about the venue of the conference. He would not have agreed to the others' demands regarding the venue of the conference. Frankly speaking, although we do not deny that he [Amin al-Jumayyil] is the president, he is not behaving like a president, I am sorry to say. If he were a real president he should have insisted on holding the conference in Lebanon, in the B'abda Palace [words indistinct]. They do not consider him as a president [words indistinct]. The situation deteriorated because the president said he wanted to visit Syria and Jordan as well as other countries. The result was that Syria refused to receive him. It said it does not consider him as a president and that it will send him someone in Geneva [words indistinct] and when he becomes under the Syrians' service or an employee working for them then they will be able to receive him [words indistinct]. Syria actually is trying to cut the poor man down to size and he remains silent. It seems that all he cares about is staying as a president. Who is suffering? The Lebanese people, of course. I am sorry to see that Lebanon, which was the lighthouse of the Orient, and the Lebanese are like a flock of sheep. They do not know what is happening to them and around them. They do not know what to do or to say what they want. Then Mr Walid Junblatt [words indistinct] I tell you that he was right. Why? Because the president was capable of saving all Lebanon. A golden opportunity was made available for him to do that. He had one of two choices: either to save the entire homeland and all the Lebanese people living in the country's recognized natural borders or to become materialistic, to forget the homeland, and to leave everything as it is, thus not worrying about the homeland's affairs and the massacres and catastrophies taking place. He chose the second choice. He preferred the materialistic things to the interest of the people and the homeland. It is true that the country could have suffered economically, but you know that the entire world is facing economic problems. He would certainly have found other ways to improve our economy. The president should not risk the fate of the homeland and the people. You paid the price for that when you did not speak because you were concerned about other things.

The Arab countries, precisely the oil countries and namely Saudi Arabia, are working for the sake of Lebanon, as some of the Lebanese claim. It is true that Saudi Arabia is rich and it may have real love for Lebanon, but it still fears Syria. The Saudis have a good idea about the tricks of the 'Alawites. They know that the regime in Saudi Arabia is weak because it depends on the tribes and that if Syria decides to overthrow the Saudi regime it can do that. Therefore, Saudi Arabia tries to please Syria. During its talks with the United States, Saudi Arabia tries to serve the Syrian interests. Those Lebanese who believe that Saudi Arabia is serving Lebanon's interests are wrong because in reality Saudi Arabia is serving Syria. You all know that Syria came to Lebanon not to help any party but to annex Lebanon and to create Greater Syria. This is no longer a secret.

Similarly, the Lebanese now think that the United States will solve everything. They hope that the Lebanese will soon be able to secure their living conditions. They think that the Americans are here to do this for them. They have appointed the ministers [words indistinct]. They have appointed the president's advisers. Some of these advisers are pro-Arabism, others leftists, others from the CIA, etc. I did not find a real Lebanese adviser among them. I did not find any adviser capable of giving the president real advice and of telling him that what is happening does not serve Lebanon's interests.

What is the real objective of the Dialogue Conference? I tell you frankly that it is intended to subjugate Lebanon and place it under Syrian control. Actually, the one who is really going to chair the conference is either 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam or his representative.

Who is going to chair the Shura Council? Who is going to assume the role of the Army commander? All these things could have been solved a long time ago. We could have solved these marginal things a long time ago without people killing each other or without shedding blood. I do not care whether the Army commander is a Shi'ite, a Sunni, or anything else as long as he is a Lebanese. I do not even care about the identity of the president as long as he is a Lebanese. So the main objective of the conference is to cut his excellency the president down to size and to subjugate the Lebanese and Lebanon and to place them under the Syrian 'Alawite control.

You should know all this, Lebanese. You should move. They are giving you this anesthetic. Although I differ much with Raymond Iddih, I feel that we should give the man what he deserves. He has proved that among all those going to Geneva he is the only one who understands the rules of the game. He realizes that the game calls for subjugating Lebanon by Syria. Therefore he did not take part in the dialogue. I agree with his stand. [words indistinct]

Again I tell you frankly that those going to Geneva have gone to check their bank accounts and have good time there. These persons or their fathers are the ones responsible for the destruction of Lebanon since 1943.

'Responsible Source' Denies Role in Tripoli Combat

JN031936 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] A responsible source has stated the following: 'Arafat's statement that Syria is participating with the opposition in attacking his loyalists is regretful. Whoever assumes the responsibility of leadership in the Palestinian revolution or in any revolution must at least exercise the minimum of truth in what he says. But 'Arafat had no such basis when he accused Syria of participating in the fighting.

The attempts to exhort Syria by such methods are useless. They have been tried several times before and they have failed. This is because baseless accusations do not achieve the objectives of those who claim them, but rather expose the objectives and plans within which they are moving.

Syria's firm decision is not to interfere in Palestinian differences, especially the fighting operations taking place within the groups of the Palestinian revolution. This position was established at the beginning of the differences and the clashes between the two sides of the Fatah movement. This decision was communicated at the time to the Fatah leaders. It was repeatedly communicated in recent days to some of the leaders in 'Arafat's wing itself.

Therefore, the Syrian forces are not a party to the clashes taking place between 'Arafat and his opponents. The Syrian forces have not fired a single shot and no Syrian soldier is involved in what is taking place in the Tripoli area.

Damascus Radio Reports 4 Nov Tyre Explosion

JN040930 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0815 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] Radio Monte Carlo cited press correspondents in southern Lebanon as saying that a truck loaded with explosives dashed into the Israeli intelligence headquarters at the northern entrance of Tyre at 0600 today. The explosion led to the destruction of the building.

The same sources added that the building also houses the command of the Israeli military administration. About 200 Israeli soldiers, in addition to Palestinian and Lebanese detainees, were in the building before and at the time of the explosion.

At this moment a Zionist military spokesman confirmed the destruction of two buildings occupied by the Israeli war army in Tyre. However, the Israeli spokesman has not yet given any account of the Israeli losses. A short while ago the enemy radio announced that rescue teams since early morning have been searching for and transferring the wounded or killed.

A short while ago, too, the Phalangist radio said that the Zionist military governor of Tyre was killed in the explosion. Initial information indicates that two other violent explosions followed the first explosion. They are believed to have been caused by the explosion of an ammunition depot in the military governor's building.

Reports say that the enemy forces immediately cordoned off the explosion site and began a storming and arrest campaign against the Lebanese citizens. They also imposed curfew on Tyre for 3 days. Reports also say that ambulances were actively transporting the wounded and killed and helicopters were seen continuously evacuating the killed and wounded from the explosion site.

Israeli Raids Reported

JN041310 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] Tyre—a truck loaded with explosives this morning dashed into the headquarters of the Israeli intelligence at the northern entrance of Tyre. It exploded and completely destroyed two buildings occupied by the Zionist invasion forces. The Israeli military spokesman admitted the explosion, but did not give any details on the losses sustained by the Zionist officers and soldiers.

The Phalangist radio said the explosion killed the Israeli military governor of Tyre, in addition to a number of Zionist officers and soldiers.

Radio Monte Carlo had earlier cited press correspondents in southern Lebanon as saying that the explosion of the truck resulted in the complete destruction of the intelligence headquarters and the military administration headquarters of the Zionist invasion forces. According to the said sources, the two buildings house about 200 Israeli officers and soldiers.

The Zionist enemy radio said the rescue teams have since early morning been searching for and transferring casualties. Reports say the ambulances and helicopters were seen actively transporting the dead and wounded from the scene of the explosion to hospitals inside the Zionist entity.

Initial information said that the explosion of the truck also led to a series of successive explosions in the ammunition depots in the Zionist military governor's headquarters in Tyre.

In a subsequent report, the Zionist enemy radio said that war minister Moshe Arens arrived in Tyre to follow up what is taking place. Meanwhile, columns of smoke are still billowing from the scene of the explosion. The enemy radio also reported that hospitals in northern Palestine had been put in a state of maximum alert amid fears that casualties might be high in number.

Beirut radio said that the Israeli forces imposed a strong military siege around Tyre. They also imposed a curfew for 3 days and closed bridges across the Al-Awwali River as well as the coastal road. Thus, these forces have completely isolated southern Lebanon from Lebanon.

On another level, news agencies cited eyewitnesses as saying that the Zionist invasion forces have sent a large number of their forces to Tyre. They also carried out a large-scale storming and arrest campaign against the Lebanese citizens under the pretext of interrogating them.

In a subsequent report received a short while ago the official in charge of personnel in the Zionist war army claimed that 3 soldiers were killed and 25 others wounded, in addition to 32 missing. However, the Phalangist radio stressed that a large number of Zionist officers and soldiers, in addition to the military governor of Tyre, were killed under the destroyed building.

In another development, AP cited a UN spokesman as saying that Lebanese Army barracks and a UN building in Tyre were destroyed in the explosion. AFP reported from occupied Palestine that today's explosion reminded the Israeli observers of the incident which took place in Tyre in November last year and which led to the destruction of the building used as the Israeli military governor's headquarters and to the death of more than 89 persons, including 75 Israeli soldiers.

This afternoon the enemy radio announced that the Israeli warplanes strafed areas in Bhamdun and Al-Mansuriyah.

In the Zionist entity, the enemy government held an emergency session today under Yitzhaq Shamir to listen to the latest reports on the blowing up of the Israeli intelligence building in Tyre.

Envoy in Paris Rejects Responsibilitiy for Tyre Attack

LD041330 Paris Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] The Syrian ambassador to Paris has rejected any responsibility of his country in the Tyre attack.

Klibi Confers With Al-Asad; Departs 3 Nov

JN031650 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] At 1100 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi. During the meeting, the discussion dealt with the situation in the region and the arrangements for the convocation of the upcoming Arab summit.

Klibi left Damascus this evening after a short visit to Syria.

Continued Reportage on Lebanese Geneva Conference

5th Session Reported

JN031521 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] Geneva —The Lebanese National Dialogue Conference's fifth session was opened in Geneva this morning. The conferees are scheduled to discuss the measures that will be taken concerning the Lebanese-Israeli agreement. In an interview with Swiss television, the leader of the Amal Movement, Nabih Birri, called for the cancellation of the agreement of submission and stressed the need for the unconditional withdrawal of the Israeli and U.S. forces from Lebanon. He said: Since the beginning of the Lebanese National Dialogue Conference, we have been insisting on canceling the Lebanese- Israeli agreement.

In an attempt to exercise pressure in order to foil the conference, the U.S. Administration warned the conferees against canceling the Lebanese-Israeli agreement.

Citing its correspondent in Geneva, *AS-SAFIR* says that the U.S. envoy to the conference, Richard Fairbanks, had frankly warned the opposition leaders during his meeting with them that the United States is a principal party to the Lebanese- Israeli agreement and considers it a U.S. issue. He also said that the agreement is the price which Israel accepted in order to withdraw, and that Israel will remain in Lebanon if the agreement should be canceled.

According to *AS-SAFIR*, Fairbanks threatened the Lebanese opposition by saying that Washington will not accept a rule that embodies the hegemony of sectarianism and political parties in Lebanon.

Fairbanks' 'Interference' Cited

JN032006 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] Geneva — The Lebanese National Dialogue Conference resumed its meeting this evening in Geneva. U.S. envoy Richard Fairbanks met with Lebanese Foreign Minister Elie Salim and Phalangist Party leader Pierre al-Jumayyil. News agencies did not report the details of these two meetings.

However, political observers believe that Fairbanks has intensified his activities and interference to the point where he seems to be putting open pressure on the sides to make them accept the agreement of submission.

AL-BA'TH on Geneva Discussions

JN031122 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Press review]

[Text] In an editorial entitled "The Race Between Optimism and Caution in the Field of the Lebanese National Dialogue," *AL-BA'TH* says: The discussions and arguments have continued at the Geneva Lebanese National Dialogue Conference. It seems from the beginning [of the conference] that the Swiss capital is witnessing a race between optimism and caution concerning the Lebanese national dialogue. The degree of polarization between the nationalist forces on the one hand and the Lebanese front on the other hand is still very great. This is not strange in a chronic crisis such as the Lebanese crisis, in which events have accumulated and around which trends have been interwoven to such an extent that observers quite often think that the complications make this crisis impossible to solve.

AL-BA'TH continues: We do not exaggerate if we say that the crisis that has hit Lebanon in the last years is aimed at dealing a blow to the principle and bases on which that Arab country was established. It is also aimed at canceling the formula of nationalist Lebanon and replacing it with the formula of the victor and vanquished. If this happens, Lebanon's identity and character would be changed, and this crisis would move it to roots other than its national and pan-Arab roots.

Therefore, there was a pressing need to discuss Lebanon's identity at the beginning of the Geneva conference and to reach a firm agreement on solutions and on Lebanon's future — homeland, territory, and people. Since the convening of the National Dialogue Conference and the beginning of the Lebanese dialogue, it has been confirmed that sound solutions to the Lebanese problems can only be achieved by Lebanon. It has also been confirmed that the basis for these solutions is represented by the Lebanese faction's agreement to the national formula, which will achieve accord and balance, ensure everyone's interests, and guarantee their participation in both duties and rights. Thus, any solution coming from outside Lebanon or any wager on foreign forces to save Lebanon will be a waste of time and a move in a vicious cycle.

It is necessary to have Lebanon's identity these days, because we need to know which Lebanon we want. We want Lebanon to be a country around which all Lebanese rally. We want a Lebanon that reunifies all Lebanese and that is considered the basis for their coexistence and future. We do not want a Lebanon that fragments the Lebanese and sinks them in bloodbaths and conflicts. The Lebanon that unifies the Lebanese is beyond doubt the Arab, free, and independent Lebanon; but the Lebanon that fragments the Lebanese is the Lebanon of the agreement of submission, of the victor and vanquished, and the U.S. protectorate and the Western military base.

AL-BA'TH concludes: Thus, the agreement the leaders of national dialogue reached yesterday on Lebanon's identity will be a starting point for tackling Lebanon's major problems and finding sound solutions to them. Whenever the Geneva conference says that Lebanon is Arab in its affiliation and identity, is a founding and working member of the Arab League, abiding by all of its charters on the condition that these principles must be embodied in all spheres, this means that all Lebanese reject any behavior that does not embody this identity on the Lebanese arena. Although this identity existed before the crisis, it is necessary to reiterate it in the national dialougue conference in order to determine, from the strange opinions and stands that were produced in light of the Lebanese crisis, the stand that favors nationalist, Arab Lebanon. It is also necessary to reiterate this identity in order to begin in depth discussions on the details of the Lebanese file.

Lebanon's Arabism Its Salvation

JN032104 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] Lebanon's brothers and those who are concerned about its territorial integrity, its people's unity, and its national sovereignty sincerely wish success for the National Dialogue Conference in achieving the demands of the large Lebanese Arab masses and in restoring security, peace, and accord to Lebanon. Syria has stood with all its capabilities in order to achieve these objectives. It is exerting every effort and capability for the success of the conference and is entrenching the principles on which the Arab, independent, sovereign, and free Lebanon is based. What Syria is currently doing for the sake of Lebanon and for the success of the dialogue between the Lebanese parties is a continuation of its pan-Arab role toward this brotherly country — this role which Syria has been playing for 8 years in order to preserve Lebanon's unity, to prevent its partition, and to avoid the domination of the logic of the victor and the vanquished because this logic only leads to infighting, destruction, and fragmentation of the land and people.

Thus, Syria, which showed concern over Lebanon's land, people, sovereignty, and state, is now greatly concerned about the success ofthe Lebanese national dialogue and accord because it is bound by a pan-Arab commitment toward the brotherly Lebanese people. Syria also has interests in seeing the Lebanese people and land united and seeing Lebanon enjoying sovereignty, stability, and peace. Syria does not want foreign troops to defile Lebanon's sanctity or see U.S.-NATO hegemony over Lebanon which intends to transform it into a starting point for aggression against Syria and the Arabs.

Since the conference approved yesterday the self-evident proof of Lebanon's Arabism, affirming the fact that Lebanon enjoys an Arab identity and affiliation and is also committed to the Arab League Charter, it has thus made the first positive step which settles a fabricated argument initiated by some parties against Lebanon's Arabism and pan-Arab identity. Observers consider this step a trend which will determine the conference's course and deliberations because it is logical that all discussions must take place within the framework of Lebanon's Arab identity which must be the judge and the arbiter inside and outside the conference for any other question.

Attempts were made in the near past to disavow Arabism in Lebanon in order to justify the rapprochement and dealings with the Israeli enemy and to oust the Lebanese question from its internal and Arab framework. This was done in order to internationalize Lebanon and place it under U.S.-NATO influence at a time when part of its territory was, and still is, under the detested Israeli occupation. The wagering on the aggressive and biased U.S. role was made on a large scale — a role which has been exploiting the Lebanese tragedy in order to achieve an aggressive military presence in the Arab land.

In light of the axiomatic Arabism of Lebanon and its Arab affiliation, which the conference had approved, some of the conference parties, in light of this logic must reconsider all their stands with regard to the Israeli enemy, the agreement of submission which was imposed on Lebanon, the U.S. military presence in the Lebanese territories, and the dangerous U.S. role which is hostile to Lebanon and is identical to the Israeli enemy's objectives.

Lebanon certainly will only find its unity, security, and sovereignty in the Arab nation's fold and according to the requirements of the higher Arab interests. Consequently, the cancellation of the agreement of submission will remove the big gap between the stand of the National Salvation Front and the Amal Movement, backed by the Arab nation, on the one hand, and the Lebanese Front which disavowed Lebanon's axiomatic

Arabism and Arab affiliation on the other. Furthermore, the agreement on withdrawing the Lebanese question from the U.S. basket and ending the U.S.-NATO military presence in Lebanon is considered an advanced step for the conference that provides it with a positive atmosphere that will enable it to reach just solutions to all internal Lebanese issues and questions.

An agreement on expelling the Israeli enemy, refusing to deal with it, and ending the conspiratorial military and political U.S. role is the means that will restore free decision-making to Lebanon and pave the way for its representatives to head freely toward a unified Arab Lebanon that enjoys peace and security and pursues its march through bypassing the predicament and the infighting.

We in Syria are wagering on Lebanon's Arabism, its territorial integrity, and its people's unity. We are also wagering on the fact that when the intentions are good, Lebanon will successfully pass through the experiment, and the national dialogue conference will be able to define the national Lebanese common denomina During the meeting, the talk dealt with current international issues and bilateral relations.

tors. Otherwise, the Lebanese crisis will become more complicated and will further deteriorate — a situation which none of Lebanon's sons and brothers desire. In fact, this is the situation which Lebanon's enemies and those harboring ambitions on its land and water want; starting with the Israeli invaders and passing by the U.S. imperialists and their NATO allies.

Al-Asad Receives Romania's Oprea 3 Nov

JN031657 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] Damascus — At 1415 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received Romanian Deputy Prime Minister Gheorghe Oprea. The meeting was attended by 'Abd al-Qadir Qaddurah, deputy prime minister for economic affairs, and Grigore Comartin, Romanian ambassador in Damascus.

Oprea brought a message to President al-Asad from Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu. Al-Asad gave him a reply message.

Explosion Rocks IDF Buildings in Lebanon

TA040656 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0650 GMT 4 Oct 83

[Text] We have just received an IDF spokesman's announcement: A strong explosion occurred in Tyre at about 0600 this morning. Two buildings in which Israeli security personnel are located were involved. The IDF forces are busy with evacuation and rescue activities. Following the explosion, the Lebanese coastal road was closed to traffic. The two buildings are located in the southern approach to Tyre, near the main road.

Further Details

TA040705 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0655 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Report by Arab affairs correspondent Gay Bekhor — live]

[Text] Here are additional details on the explosion according to the Voice of Lebanon: The explosion took place at 0605 this morning in the military governor's building in Tyre. The building is located in the Al-Buss refugee camp near the Lebanese Army's local camp, at the entrance to Tyre. According to the report, a booby-trapped car broke into the building carrying a charge of over 50 kg of TNT. The station is reporting that immediately after the explosion of the car, part of the building collapsed, and a series of explosions were then heard, apparently from a munitions warehouse located under the building. The explosions are still continuing at the moment, according to the report.

Correspondents report there is a black cloud of smoke covering Tyre which is visible a long distance from the site. The IDF immediately closed off all roads leading to Tyre, including the Rosh-Haniqra coastal road. It was reported that a number of local inhabitants who were nearby at the time of the explosion were arrested.

Tyre 'Under Siege'

TA040713 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0705 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] Our Arab affairs correspondent Gay Bekhor has just entered our studio with this report:

[Bekhor — live] Well, cars with loudspeakers went through Tyre's streets a few minutes ago and informed the residents that the city is under siege [matzor] for 3 days. Voice of Lebanon is reporting that at the moment many cranes, IDF bulldozers, and large forces have arrived at the site and are busy with the rescue operation. According to reports on Voice of Lebanon, it seems that Lebanese civilians too were killed during the explosion. As for casualties among the IDF and security forces, we have no reports as yet.

Al-Awwali Bridge Closed

TA040721 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Excerpt] According to reports our monitor Mikha'el Gurdus heard on the Christian radio stations in Beirut, a booby-trapped car entered the Israeli military authorities building in Tyre and exploded. It carried 50 kg of explosives. According to these reports, the first explosion was followed by additional explosions, apparently in munitions dumps located inside the building. Part of the building collapsed.

The Lebanese radio stations report that rescue teams are now busy evacuating the casualties from under the debris and that a heavy cloud of smoke is rising over the area. The IDF closed off the entire area to traffic and closed the Al-Awwali bridge to traffic in both directions. Major Haddad's forces are participating in the rescue operations.

Commander Says Bridges Open

TA041322 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1313 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Interview with commander of the Al-Awwali sector by military correspondent Shmu'el Tal — live]

[Text] [Tal] The three main bridges spanning the Al-Awwali River are still open. Do you think closing them would ease the situation here?

[Answer] It will undoubtedly stem the phenomenon in which warfare material of such magnitude is being introduced. It will also affect the sophistication of the [word indistinct]. Additionally, it will also make a difference in terms of our ability to control whatever enters southern Lebanon. Under the current conditions, with the bridges open, it is extremely difficult.

IDF Spokesman Announcement

TA041014 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] The IDF spokesman told our correspondent that initial evidence indicates that a terrorist truck, loaded with explosives and with a single driver, broke through the roadblocks and entered the courtyard of the military authorities building. The truck was hit by shots from the three guards who stood next to the gate and exploded before it got to the building itself. The IDF spokesman believes that the guards' alertness prevented an even greater disaster. Our correspondent notes that large reinforcements are now arriving in Tyre, including physicians, nurses, and debris removal experts. Our correspondent further reports that up until a short while ago small arms munitions were still exploding inside the building.

Casualty Figures

TA041008 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] The head of the Manpower Branch in the IDF's General Command, Brigadier General 'Amos Yaron, told our correspondent Hayim Hecht that at the time of the explosion of the booby-trapped car at the military authorities building in Tyre, there were 60 IDF soldiers and border police in the building: 3of them were killed, 25 were wounded and rescued, and the rest are missing.

However, the person in charge of the rescue team, Colonel Yosi Tzahor, says contact has already been made with people trapped under the debris and some of them have already received injections. He believes that the rescue operations will end within 24 hours. The rescuers have special equipment developed after the collapse of the military authorities building in Tyre a year ago, including special air pillows [kariyot avir] for lifting rubble and tools for welding iron.

14 Reported Dead

TA041203 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1201 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] Fourteen security forces personnel were killed in the attack that occurred this morning in Tyre; 21 wounded troops have been transferred to a hospital, and 13 are still missing. Several people have been rescued safe and sound. This was reported by the IDF spokesman based on the data that has so far been collected. The rescue work continues.

Commander on Rescue Operations

TA041205 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1141 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Interview with Major General Amir Drori, commander of the Northern Command, in Tyre on 4 November — recorded]

[Text] [Question] When do you suppose the rescue work will end here?

[Answer] The rescue work [word indistinct] an hour, and then until the evening. I hope the area will be cleared after the evacuation.

[Question] In light of all the lessons that have been learned, and especially after what befell the Americans in Beirut, how could such an incident occur, how could a booby-trapped car enter such a building?

[Answer] This will be investigated. There were security measures, but apparently they did not meet the requirements. But let us leave this for now.

[Question] From the initial investigation, what has transpired? What happened here?

[Answer] Look and see for yourself.

Air Force Attacks

TA041039 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1033 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] The Voice of Lebanon announced a short while ago that Israeli Air Force planes are attacking targets in Lebanon. Our monitor Mikha'el Gurdus is reporting:

[Gurdus — live] Well, the Voice of Lebanon radio station reports that 16 Israeli U.S.- made aircraft are bombing terrorist targets in the areas of Al-Mansuriyah, Bhamdun, Sawfar, and (Rawfat Sawfar), which are near the Beirut-Damascus Highway. The broadcast is saying that the bombing is heavy, but that so far there are no further reports on the results of this bombing. Let us only remind you that the Bhamdun area was taken over by the terrorists and the Druze from the Christians in the last bit of fighting which took place after the IDF withdrew from Ash-Shuf.

IDF Spokesman Confirmation

TA041109 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] Air Force planes this afternoon attacked terrorist targets in Lebanon. The IDF spokesman reported that the attack ended about 15 minutes ago, and that all our aircraft returned safely to base. The IDF spokesman announcement says that, in light of the increase in terrorist activities against the IDF in Lebanon, activities which culminated in the attack this morning in Tyre, the Air Force planes this afternoon attacked command posts and other terrorist targets in the vicinity of Al-Mansuriyah in the eastern sector and in Bhamdun, along the Beirut-Damascus highway. Our pilots reported direct hits.

Our correspondent adds that the targets that were attacked are terrorist command posts, several tanks, and some 130mm artillery barrels belonging to the Ahmad Jibril organization, the Democratic Front, and some belonging to Abu Musa's [Sa'id Musa Mughara] men, the Fatah rebels.

Syrian Target Not Hit

TA041250 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1245 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] The IDF spokesman has denied that the Air Force struck Syrian forces, saying that the Air Force planes operated only against terrorist targets.

More Air Raids

TA041439 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1434 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] The IDF spokesman has confirmed that the Air Force planes again attacked terrorist command posts in the vicinity of Bhamdun, along the Beirut-Damascus highway this afternoon. All our planes returned safely to base. The pilots have reported direct hits on their targets. This is the end of the IDF spokesman's announcement.

Officials Interviewed on Explosion in Tyre

Arens Interview

TA041212 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1150 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] We now want to hear an interview conducted by our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal in the area of the incident in

Tyre. The interview was conducted with Defense Minister Moshe Arens who has been in the area since this morning.

[Begin recording] [Tal] Mr Arens, what have you learned from this incident?

[Arens] First, the people of Israel, the border police, and the IDF have suffered a great loss. This is an act of terror, a crime, a link in a chain of terrorist acts against Israel, and not only against Israel. We will strike back at those who commit these crimes. We will certainly examine what happened and how, and what it is necessary to do to guarantee that this will not happen again.

[Tal] Mr Arens, who do we hold responsible for this act?

[Arens] To our great regret, we are already familiar with the anatomy of terror. There is here a number or groups of terrorists which are fighting or supporting each other. They are all interconnected and their existence and links culminate in the perpetration of terrorist acts. The major question here then is not which particular group of the 15 terrorist groups carried out this specific act. The element responsible for this act was aided by others.

[Tal] Mr Arens, lately there has been talk of the possibility of closing the Al-Awwali bridges for this purpose, so that bombs are not brought in, so that booby-trapped cars are not brought in. Now, following the explosion, following the incident that took place here, will there be momentum for these efforts? Will you actually do something?

[Arens] This is not the time to make decisions about what needs to be done. All decisions will be made following investigations we will conduct, when we are sure of the findings, when we are sure that the findings and the conclusions are correct. [end recording]

Moshe Levi Comments

TA041141 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1035 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] Let us return to the military authorities buildings, which collapsed in the explosion this morning, where our correspondent Hayim Hecht spoke with the chief of staff a few minutes ago:

[Begin recording] [Hecht] Lieutenant General Moshe Levi, as of now, what is happening in the area here in Tyre?

[Levi] You have already received all the information we have so far. This morning a terrorist act, which is very grave from our point of view, took place in a camp which serves the security forces. Located there were border police units, various groups of IDF soldiers, a group of Shin Bet personnel, as well as a detention camp for terrorists, who were detained for initial interrogations.

The act, as I said, took place around 0600. As far as we know, the action [taken by the soldiers] and the security arrangements worked. There were also a number of obstacles at the entrance to the camp, and the guards reacted according to orders. As far as I can tell from a personal talk I had with one of the guards, his reaction was correct and quick. This reaction did not prevent what happened, but we will have to take other steps which will surely make all walks of life in this area, and not only the life of the security forces, more difficult in bringing about a situation to prevent other extreme acts.

[Hecht] We see that one of the first measures adopted was a general curfew in this region and the closing of the bridges on the Al-Awwali River. How long will the curfew last in your opinion? Will the bridges on the Al-Awwali River remain closed?

[Levi] We are now talking about operational decisions. When one finds oneself under terrorist attack, one should try to locate all the possible elements involved to see whether such an incident will not be followed by another incident in its wake. The precautions have been taken to prevent another incident in this region. Other, longer-term steps will have to be examined together with all their implications. Therefore, one should distinguish between the closing and the curfew imposed now as an operational move and longer-term decisions. I cannot now answer you as to how long the curfew will last and how long the passes will remain closed.

[Hecht] Mr Chief of Staff, this question may be difficult to ask as the operations are still underway. However, in view of the attacks of the suicide terrorists on the headquarters of the multinational force in Beirut, should the security measures here not have been stepped up to prevent the recurrence of such a terrorist act?

[Levi] It is always good to say that things should not happen. This is what I just said. Measures were adopted here before the incident and will be adopted after the incident, measures intended to prevent such acts. I regret to say that the result was not prevented. The measures at least made it difficult to enter IDF camps and the guards were under very strict orders regarding shooting. These are orders which are not easy to act on since at times people may misunderstand things and get fired upon as a result. These measures have been adopted and, as I said, additional measures will have to influence all walks of life here, and not only the direct activity by our forces. This type of measure is under consideration, and I think some of them will surely be adopted.

[Hecht] Mr Chief of Staff, can you describe what rescue operations are underway at the site now?

[Levi] As for the rescue operations, we transferred the local forces to the area. A medical force is located nearby; its members were not wounded and it was able to extend immediate medical aid. Other forces consisting of volunteers, soldiers, and various kinds of equipment as you can see here, tractors for example, some of them belong to local residents — reached the site from a nearby area within a very short time. Additional medical forces were flown here as well as expert rescue forces which arrived from the camp in central Israel. All of them, as you can see, are busy. In my opinion, we have here the best equipment and people necessary for this task.

[Hecht] Mr Chief of Staff, at this time, while the impression of this disaster is still fresh in people's minds, what can be said to the Israeli people who are repeatedly subjected to this bad news from Lebanon?

[Levi] I can say that we are dealing with a great disaster. I think it cannot be said that, whichever method is adopted, that we will ever be able to prevent terrorist acts, and I am not talking only of Lebanon here. We must make every effort — it is not easy to do so today — but we must make every human effort and use all conceivable resources to prevent such acts. We should also introduce different practices from the ones we have had so far. [end recording]

Burg Reaction

TA040957 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0940 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] Here is an initial reaction by a minister to the incident in Tyre, as reported by political correspondent 'Oz Frankel.

[Begin recording] [Burg] We are deeply shocked. I received the report this morning around 0700 from the police inspector general, who immediately flew to the area. It is especially painful for me to think about the victims in the border police ranks following the disaster in Tyre about a year ago. I see this incident as reinforcement for my, or our thesis that terrorism is an international plague. The Americans learned this in Beirut, the French too learned this in Beirut. We have known this for a long time but the world has always been deaf to this. The technique of what happened is apparently similar to the technique of what happened in Beirut. There are no clear reports yet. It may be the same group that prepared this and we should prepare ourselves to deal with this new technique.

[Unidentified correspondent] Will Israel react following the terrorist act in Tyre this morning?

[Burg] I hope that one day there will be an answer to your question.

[Unidentified correspondent] Have lessons been drawn from what happened in Beirut in order to prevent what happened this morning, or have we not learned anything from the Beirut disaster?

[Burg] I can only say, on the basis of the information I have, that the border police commander visited the area there a few days ago. He gave a number of instructions and guidelines, the details of which I have not yet heard. It may be, however, that they prevented an even greater disaster, God forbid.

[Unidentified correspondent] Do we know the identity of the perpetrators of the terrorist act in Tyre?

[Burg] Not at the moment.

[Unidentified correspondent] This morning Minister Yuval Ne'eman again proposed that the Al-Awwali River bridges be closed. What is your opinion of this?

[Burg] Since this is the same proposal I raised a long time ago, this means that my opinion of this is favorable. [end recording]

Moda'i Remarks

TA041158 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1135 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Interview with Energy and Infrastructure Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i in Jerusalem, in front of the prime minister's office, by Arye Golan — recorded]

[Text] [Moda'i] First of all, I would like to say that we deeply share the mourning and grief of the families. At the same time, I would also like to express anger over the fact that such base, foul measures are being employed. It is clear to me that Israel cannot ignore such incidents. We will tighten our security measures in the command posts and in the bases and in my opinion we will have to make sure that no such incidents recur.

[Golan] Will there be an Israeli retaliatory measure following this morning's attack?

[Moda'i] You know that the Cabinet ministers do not reply to, and indeed are not allowed, to answer such questions.

[Golan] Do we know who carried out the attack?

[Moda'i] No. All we know is that the guards hit the driver of the vehicle, the suicidal driver, but the car was already going at high speed and hit the building exploding.

[Golan] Do you think the Al-Awwali bridges should be closed?

[Moda'i] There is and there is not a connection between closing the Al-Awwali bridges and the incident in question, though not necessarily so. [as heard] It is true that the closing would have presented difficulties in carrying out such attacks and caused greater problems to its perpetrators, but the link is not necessarily direct and the closing does not necessarily have to be total. There are other problems there, and there are people living between the Al-Awwali and the Israeli border. Our choice is either to leave them an outlet northward, or else southward into Israel. The considerations here are political, for the long term, rather than for terrorist attacks.

[Golan] As far as we know, were the required precautionary measures employed in light of the attacks that occurred both in Beirut and also in the past against the IDF soldiers?

[Moda'i] Yes, we have been told that they were, but evidently they were insufficient. The fact is that the incident did take place.

'No Official Comment'

TA041132 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1125 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Report by Arye Golan from the prime minister's office in Jerusalem — live]

[Text] The atmosphere in the prime minister's office is gloomy. Some ministers even refuse to make any statement to the press. In clarifications we have attempted here, it was reported that no official comment will be made by the prime minister's office either until after the overall picture of what took place in Tyre becomes clear. The ministers congregated here this morning in their capacity as the ministerial committee on economic affairs to discuss the economic measures, but once reports came in on the attack in Tyre, the ministers — whom other Cabinet members later joined — were given reports by senior IDF officers. Some ministers told us after that session: It is necessary to seal the Al-Awwali River bridges hermetically to prevent additional attacks. This is the opinion of Minister Yuval Ne'eman, and this is also the view of Minister Yosef Burg.

The Cabinet meeting adjourned when some of the ministers departed for the memorial service for the late 'Aliza Begin. The ministers then returned to the prime minister's office.

Cabinet To Discuss Tyre

TA041150 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1140 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Report from Jerusalem by Arye Golan — live]

[Text] Because of the incident in Tyre, the Cabinet will postpone the economic discussion scheduled for Sunday and the discussion of the economic measures will be held next Monday [7 November]. On Sunday at the weekly Cabinet session, the attack in Tyre as well as additional military and political issues will be discussed.

Minister Ne'eman Interview

TA041320 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1150 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Telephone interview with Science and Development Minister Prof Yuval Ne'eman by 'Adi Talmor — live]

[Text] [Talmor] What is your reaction to the Tyre incident?

[Ne'eman] Grief over the casualties, and I hereby wish to express my condolences to the families of the dead and the wounded, as well as my anger at the perpetrators. At the same time, there is no doubt in my mind that we must have more effective security arrangements. I am happy to learn that the commander of the Northern Command will conduct an investigation regarding the arrangements in this specific case. It is clear to me that command headquarters can be guarded by way of placing concrete-filled barrels and other objects at the entrance, and that it is possible to make arrangements that will defend the posts when there is information that such actions are being taken.

But generally, I would say that in this matter I have long held the same position that it is necessary to take control over the area in southern Lebanon, just as we have done, say, in the Gaza Strip when we cleared it in 1970. Thus, first of all, the Al-Awwali bridges should be closed so that traffic there can be controlled. The organizations in that area should be disarmed and made to carry identification so that it will really be possible to know who is roaming that area and systematically clean it out.

[Talmor] Let us for a moment also refer to your suggestion that the Al-Awwali bridges be closed. Do you think that now, in view of the incident in Tyre, this suggestion will be accepted by the Cabinet?

[Ne'eman] I think so, and I regret that it took this incident. We are, indeed, in general very hesitant to act in Lebanon, as though we were guests in a friendly country. It is a pity that we did not close them before. I think that when we deployed along the Al-Awwali and the fighting in the Ash-Shuf Mountains occurred, it was easier — in international terms — to explain the closing when there was fighting and people were dying. Still, it is undeniably manageable now, too, as it was earlier.

[Talmor] Minister Yuval Ne'eman, the Air Force attack in Lebanon about an hour ago can be interpreted as an immediate reaction to the attack in Tyre. Are any additional reactions to be expected, or will Israel make do with this reaction?

[Ne'eman] I cannot answer this.

[Talmor] Thank you very much for now.

Ambassador to France Comments

NC040940 Paris AFP in English 0935 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] Paris, Nov 4 (AFP) — Israel's Ambassador to France, Ovadia Sofer, today accused Syria of being directly or indirectly behind today's truck-bomb blast at the Israeli military headquarters in Tyre, south Lebanon.

He said the attack was similar to those of October 23 in Beirut against the United States and French contingents of the multinational buffer force. Nearly 290 people have been reported dead in those blasts.

Mr Sofer said the vehicle used in Tyre was of the same type as those used in the Beirut blasts. "People fired at the lorry which accelerated and then there were three explosions", he said.

Mr Sufer said he could give no information about the number of casualties.

He said all these attacks "are aimed at destabilising Lebanon and the region and sowing terror".

"I think it is part of a Syrian plan to impose the control and will of Damascus on Lebanon, he said. Mr Ofer's assertions followed U.S. and French intelligence reports that Shi'ite groups that support Iran had carried out the blasts in Beirut.

The Syrians and other forces may use local elements" but all the signs went in the same direction and "we must always ask who benefits from these attacks," he said.

[quotation marks as received] Referring to the ongoing Lebanese reconciliation congress in Geneva, Mr Sofer said that "in Geneva (President Amin) Al-Jumayyil has been given a temporary reprieve". But behind the supposedly national reconciliation talks, Syria was calling the tune, he said.

'Compromise Proposal' Reported From Geneva

TA031948 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1925 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] Here is a report by our monitor Mikha'el Gurdus which has just arrived in our studio: The Lebanese reconciliation conference this evening embraced a compromise proposal authorizing President Amin al-Jumayyil to conduct international contacts in order to get the IDF out of Lebanon. Our monitor notes that the report, broadcast a few minutes ago by Beirut radio, stated that this resolution concludes the debate held on the circumstances created in the wake of the agreement signed by Israel and Lebanon. The report does not mention the freeze or abrogation of the agreement, as had been demanded [tav'a] by the Lebanese opposition, and by Syria most of all, but rather — and I repeat — it authorizes President Al-Jumayyil to conduct international contacts in order to get the IDF out of Lebanon.

Junblatt Says Accord Canceled

TA040621 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0520 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] The Geneva conference yesterday consolidated a formula to settle the dispute over the Israeli-Lebanese accord. The announcement by the conference in Geneva stated that Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil will conduct negotiations in order to end the Israeli occupation. This is the formulation of the announcement. Druze leader Walid Junblatt told our correspondent David Witzthum that the decision in fact cancels the agreement signed with Israel.

[Begin recording] [Witzthum] Well, despite everything, despite the guesses and difficulties, the Israeli-Lebanese accord has not been canceled. There are no changes and there is no freezing, at least not according to the official wording of the draft agreement reached at the negotiating tables in Geneva yesterday. President Amin al-Jumayyil will soon leave for the United States and several Arab countries in order to continue the contacts aimed at extending Lebanese sovereignty to all of Lebanon and at ending the Israeli occupation.

The terms, slogans, and rumors were all proved false yesterday when the parties agreed to let President al-Jumayyil continue to handle affairs. As for freezing, this term is not mentioned at all in the agreement, I was told by Al-Jumayyil's spokesman yesterday.

However, as opposed to this, Druze leader Walid Junblatt feverishly claims that the agreement with Israel is as good as canceled. It is impossible to ratify the agreement, Junblatt says, and therefore it should be considered abolished. I asked Walid Junblatt, what next?

[Junblatt - in English] We will see tomorrow. I think it is going to be the main subject, waiting for Amin al-Jumayyil to go back from his tour. It is a tour to discuss the basic issues which are the political reform.

[Witzthum] Junblatt said: After we stabilize the cease-fire achieved in Damascus by Saudi Arabia, and after President Amin al-Jumayyil returns from his trip, we will approach the main issue: political reform. This is the main issue: political reform. Today, indeed, after the main obstacle was struck off the agenda, the conference will continue to discuss this substantive change which constitutes the main point of the Lebanese problem: political as well as socioeconomic change which may, perhaps, be possible now following the two decisions made in Geneva this week. One decision concerns Lebanon's Arab identity and another concerns authorizing the Lebanese president to represent Lebanon, to obtain Israel's withdrawal, and to extend Lebanese sovereignty to all of Lebanon. [end recording]

Jerusalem refused to react to the decisions in Geneva. This is reported by our correspondent Arye Golan. Jerusalem is waiting for the accepted official formulation of the decisions reached in Geneva.

Eagleburger Briefed on Military, Security Affairs

TA031738 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] U.S. Under Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger today heard security and military briefings. The defense minister told him: Israel greatly appreciates the aid the United States is extending. Here is a report by our military correspondent, Shmu'el Tal, who was there:

[Begin Tal recording] The U.S. under secretary of state spent the day in the Defense Ministry and heard a wide array of reviews on Israel's military predicament. He also heard the views of the heads of the defense establishment concerning events in the Arab countries. Eagleburger had no mandate to conclude things here. Therefore, he is expected to pass his impressions on, and one could probably safely assume that whatever agreements [sikumim] are reached, if any, will involve Minister Arens and senior U.S. administration elements when the minister visits the United States early next month.

Today Eagleburger heard the defense minister, the Defense Ministry director general, as well as reports by the head of the IDF Intelligence Branch, the head of the Planning Branch, and Uri Lubrani, the coordinator of government activities in Lebanon. The head of the Intelligence Branch spoke of the growing strength of the Arab countries and emphasized that Syria is trying to reach a strategic balance with Israel. The head of the Planning Branch reviewed the IDF development trends, and the defense minister mentioned U.S. aid to Israel.

Lawrence Eagleburger mentioned the importance of cooperation between Israel and the United States and the bilateral dialogue. Arens thanked the United States for its efforts on behalf of the Jews who are prisoners of conscience in the Soviet Union. Lawrence Eagleburger noted that it is highly important that democratic countries act jointly and coordinate affairs in this matter. So much for the under secretary's talks in Tel Aviv. Once again, if any agreements [sikumim] are reached on concrete military matters, they will be set up in the course of Arens' trip to the U.S. next month. [end recording]

'Sharply' Condemns Tyre Incident

TA041017 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] U.S. Under Secretary Lawrence Eagleburger, who is currently in Israel, sharply condemned the terrorist act in Tyre. In a talk with our correspondent Dan Eshel, Eagleburger characterized this act as murder and terror of the worst kind. He said that everything must be done to stop the terror and sent his condolences to the families of the dead and wounded.

Concern About U.S. Change on Lebanon Noted

TA040521 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 4 Nov 83

[Text] It has been confirmed in Washington that one of the possibilities in overcoming the dispute in Lebanon is to freeze the Israeli-Lebanese accord. U.S. sources in Washington told our correspondent Razi Barqay that the United States is not withdrawing its official commitment to this accord, but that it is making it possible to bypass [la'agof] it.

In a briefing for correspondents yesterday, the U.S. State Department spokesman refused to answer a question on whether the United States insists on the demand [derisha] that the agreement be part of a settlement in Lebanon. Israeli circles in Washington yesterday expressed concern about what they termed a change in the U.S. position. At the same time they emphasized that, in their opinion, the United States will not publicly withdraw support for the Israeli-Lebanese accord since this may harm Secretary of State Shultz' prestige.

Visit of UK's Luce Ends on 'Unpleasant' Note

TA040854 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 4 Nov 83 pp 1, 14

[Report by David Richardson and David Landau]

[Excerpt] The military government yesterday refused to allow two deposed West Bank mayors and a leader from Gaza to come to Jerusalem to meet British Foreign Office Minister of State Richard Luce.

Most of the 30-odd Palestinians invited to have lunch with Luce at the British consulate-general in East Jerusalem only paid their respects and then left as a demonstration of solidarity with those who were not allowed to leave their towns.

Well-placed Israeli sources said yesterday that the British delegation was told both prior to Luce's visit and on Tuesday evening after his arrival, that the military authorities would not allow some of the Arab leaders they had asked to see to leave their towns.

These sources said that they preferred to believe that Luce was not involved in the evolution of what was obviously going to turn into an unpleasant incident, especially since the minister had come to Israel to improve relations, and this had been achieved.

The implication of these remarks was that it was the British consulate-general in East Jerusalem which had deliberately gone ahead with the arrangement, ignoring the Israeli warnings. The consulate was therefore responsible for the unpleasant way the visit ended. The consulate is responsible for contacts with Palestinians in the West Bank, but it is the embassy in Tel Aviv which deals with Gaza.

ALGERIA

Foreign Minister Receives Fatah's Salah Khalaf

LD031823 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] Algiers, 3 Nov (APS) — Yesterday afternoon Political Bureau member and Minister of Foreign Affairs Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi received (Abu Iyad) [Salah Khalaf], member of the Palestinian Fatah Movement Central Committee. The condition of the Palestine revolution and problems in the region were discussed during the meeting.

Foreign Ministry Issues Statement on Palestinian Unity

LD032001 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] An official spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs made the following statement today:

The liberation of Palestine is regarded as a sacred issue for Arab peoples, on which their joint destiny depends. The Palestinian resistance must be the master of its own decisions, and it must be able to take them and put them into effect in total freedom. The Arab countries must amass all their capabilities in the service of strengthening the Palestinian resistance's unity and ability to act. The supreme interest of the Palestinian issue, which is the same as the interest of the Arab nation, must be placed above all considerations. In his statement, the official spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs added: What is happening in Tripoli and Lebanon does not serve the Palestinian resistance or the Arab nation, and if it is not stopped immediately the unity and the ability to act of the Palestinian resistance may be subjected to grave danger, and the basic interests of the Arab countries may be subjected to the same danger. Regarding this issue, the official spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs added: All Arab countries must bear their responsibilities, and Algeria for its part is determined to bear its responsibilities.

DFLP Secretary General Hawatimah Arrives for Visit

LD031412 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP], arrived in Algeria this morning. He was welcomed on arrival by Brother Sulayman Hoffman, member of the Central Committee and chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee; and Sadiq Zwatin, party official in charge of liberation movements.

LIBYA

JANA on Scoon's Severance of Diplomatic Relations

LD031535 Tripoli JANA in English 1454 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] St Georges, Muharram 28, Nov 3 JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The Canadian press reported that the puppet Paul Scoon, who is installed by the U.S. invading forces in Grenada has severed diplomatic relations with the Jamahiriyah and the Soviet Union. By this measure Paul Scoon confirms that he is a puppet and that he gets order from his masters, who invaded Grenada and installed him as a governor, who follows their orders and is guided by their directives.

MOROCCO

UN Committee Debates Morocco-Sahara Issue

LD031349 Rabat MAP in English 1209 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] New York, Nov 3 (MAP) — The United Nations fourth commission, known as the Decolonization Committee began here Wednesday its debates on the Moroccan Sahara issue in the presence of an important Moroccan delegation led by Mr M'hamed Boucetta, minister of state for foreign affairs. The delegation comprises Ambassador Mehdi Zentar, permanent representative of Morocco to the UN as well as several representatives of the population of the Moroccan Saharan provinces. Taking the floor in their quality of petitioners at these debates which are part of the 38th ordinary session of the UN General Assembly, Haj Khatri Ould Sidi Said Joumani, Mr Mohamed Sheikh Biadillah and Mr Mohamed Mael Ainin [spelling of names as received] reaffirmed one after the other their indefectible attachment to their Moroccanity and to the 'Alawite throne.

After reviewing the struggle process led by the Sahara population against the Spanish occupation in the southern Moroccan territories, the speakers explained the real nature of the aggression against Morocco through the "Polisario," instrument of subversion directed against the kingdom's territorial integrity. They also reiterated their mobilization and that of the Saharan population behind King Hassan II of Morocco.

LE MONDE Ponders Possible Shape of Government

PM031001 Paris LE MONDE in French 26 oct 83 p 6

[Jean de la Gueriviere dispatch: "The Formation of a Union Government Could Reflect All-Party Agreement on Sahara"]

[Excerpts] Rabat — "You are the last journalists I will receive as president of the Chamber of Representatives," Mr Dey Ould Sidi Baba told us, casting a pensive gaze round the huge office he is about to leave. The long corridors of the big parliament building on Avenue Mohammed-V have gradually been emptied, and the committees which sit between sessions have ended their work. The deputies have learned that they will no longer be paid. Morocco has been living without a legislative authority since 14 October.

There are widespread rumors about the way in which the king could "channel" the exercise of legislative power through himself. According to some people a government of national union will be formed as in 1976. Mr Abderrahim Bouabid, secretary general of the Socialist Union of Popular Forces, the main opposition party, has already turned down an offer from the king in this connection, since he considers that he would not have the means of pursuing the economic and social policy he advocates.

But a new proposal by King Hassan II cannot be ruled out in advance. Its aim would be to reflect the sacrosanct all-party union on the Sahara at government level.

A Disastrous Drought

The Moroccan political parties, including the communists, are protesting more strongly than ever again any idea of "abandoning" the Sahara.

"By accepting the principle of a referendum, the king has already made an enormous sacrifice, because you cannot ask a Moroccan to say whether or not he is a Moroccan," Mr Abdelhak Tazi, secretary of state for foreign affairs, told us.

"This distortion of the principle of sovereignty was accepted at our African friends' request in order to break the deadlock. But there can be no question of accepting the precondition of discussions with the Polisario. If Algeria and Mauritania decide on a cease-fire, there will be a cease-fire.

Another hypothesis put forward in Rabat, while people were awaiting the king's return after a long absence in the United States, Belgium, and France, related to the formation of a government of technocrats to improve the economic situation, aggravated by a disastrous drought, dealing a cruel blow to a country which has made a remarkable effort in the sphere of agricultural development.

The deputies passed an amending finance bill during their last session to bring about the improvement in public finances requested by the IMF and foreign banks likely to accept the rescheduling of the foreign debt.

Thousands of jobs in the civil service have been eliminated. Wages remain frozen. A 10-percent devaluation of the dirham against the franc and the dollar has been made. The subsidies on some food products have been reduced. The political parties, which are being asked to support the military effort in the Sahara, have not or virtually not reacted to these unpopular measures. The government very skillfully moved in stages, avoiding the sudden surge in prices which was the cause of the Casablanca riots in June 1981.

"We do not want a protected economy paralyzed by bureaucracy," Mr Azeddine Guessous, minister of commerce, industry, and tourism, told us.

"We want to remain an open country. That is why we signed a cooperation agreement with the EEC in 1976. At that time we made a political choice, anchoring ourselves to democratic Europe. But while the world crisis was reviving egoism, we had a technical not a political response for too long. For France, Morocco must be an economically and socially strong neighbor."

France's "historical responsibilities" toward Morocco are often recalled in this country less than 1 month from President Bendjedid's visit to Paris. People are taking refuge behind the statements made by Mr Mitterrand during his official visit to Morocco in January and showing a degree of serenity about what might be said to the Algerians on the subject of the Sahara.

SUDAN

Vice President Warns Libya of Plotting

JN031155 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1030 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] Khartoum, Uwayl, 3 Nov (SUNA) — First Vice President Major General 'Umar Muhammad at-Tayyib has warned Libya and a neighbouring African country of continuing to plot against Sudan and has asked them to take their hands off the south and to stop training agents and mercenaries. Addressing a massive meeting in the city of Uwayl in Bahr al-Ghazal region, At-Tayyib said that Sudan will continue its contacts with the neighbouring Africa country through diplomatic channels. He asserted that Sudan is capable of deterring any aggressor or anyone violating its borders [words indistinct]. The first vice president called on the citizens to be always especially alert these days so as to maintain the country's security and independence. He noted that some world broadcast staions, foremost being the BBC, are launching a large-scale campaign against Sudan, saying that the Islamic rule which has been implemented in Sudan is aimed against the people of the south.

The first vice president refuted these allegations, indicating that there are Christians in the north as there are Muslims in the south, and that the Islamic laws are not against the people of the south. The revolution in Sudan does not differentiate between Muslim and Christian. He said that this campaign is aimed at propagating rumors against Sudan and creating troubles in the south. In his address, the first vice president wondered about what colonialism had done for the south. He added that colonialism had left the south isolated and without roads to connect it with the other parts of the country. [words indistinct] At-Tayyib noted that measures are being taken to implement the oil pipeline project, and that oil production would begin in the middle of 1985. He said that by such means Sudan faces the rumors being disseminated by the hostile countries. The first vice president asserted that President Numayri supports the south and his heart is with the south, and that decentralization and the regional ruling are evidence of abiding by the Addis Ababa agreement.

MENA Reports Ghali's Press Conference

NC032342 Cairo MENA in English 1920 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] Khartoum, Nov 3 (MENA) -- Egypt reiterated again tonight its permanent stand by the Sudan out of the historical ties between the two countries. Speaking at a press conference here, Egypt's Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali also said any aggression on the Sudan is an aggression on Egypt. On the five-state foreign ministers meeting here, Ghali said it is aimed at achieving cooperation among them. He said it comes also in affirmation of the Lagos 1980 summit resolution which called upon the African states to hold regional meetings and which also envisaged pan-African meetings. The Egyptian-Sudanese integration, he said, is considered a first step for this regional cooperation. On Egypt's election to the UN Security Council membership, Ghali said it is a success for the Egyptian-Sudanese integration and African solidarity. He said this will provide Egypt with the chance to play a conciliatory role during the coming two years.

In reply to a question on Egypt and Arab soldiarity, Ghali said Egypt welcomes any efforts, or any diplomatic contact which may be conducted for restoring Arab solidarity.

He expressed confidence that Arab solidarity would surmount Arab disputes which he described as being "not new." Within the framework of Arab solidarity, he said, Egypt defends the Syrian rights in the Golan. The Golan, he continued, must return to Syria. In this connection, he pointed out, the Egyptian diplomacy is aimed at a comprehensive peace. Ghali said the Egyptian diplomacy is flexible and is willing to participate in any effort within any framework for solving the Palestinian issue in accordance with the right to self-determination. Objectives, he said, are more important than the means and what concerns us is that a comprehensive, durable, and just peace in the Middle East should be achieved either through an international conference, UN Security Council resolution, the Fes summit plan, the Reagan initiative, or new negotiations. What is important, he explained, is that the peace process should continue and work should be pursued for maintaining peace in the Middle East for we are of the opinion that there will be no solution to the Palestinian issue except through a peaceful settlement.

On the Iraq-Iran war, Ghali said Egypt stood by Iraq because Iran is currently waging an attack on the Iraqi territory. Egypt, he said, is providing Iraq with military and diplomatic assistance on the basis of the collective security treaty signed between the Arab countries in 1950. Egypt, he noted, is still adhering to the treaty's commitments and provisions.

SSU, Somali Socialist Delegation Hold Talks

JN031752 Khartoum SUNA in English 1721 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] Khartoum, Nov. 3 (SUNA) — Talks were held between the Sudanese Socialist (SSU) Central Leadership Badr ad-Din Sulayman and the delegation of the Somali Socialist Revolutionary Party headed by the Central Committee member and Chairman of the party's foreign affairs Adam Mohamed Ali. During the session viewpoints on various issues concerning the two political organizations and means of boosting and promoting them were discussed.

TUNISIA

President Receives U.S. Defense Official

LD031847 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] The future of Tunisian-American relations was discussed during talks between President Habib Bourguiba and the U.S. assistant defense secretary who affirmed to the head of state that the U.S. commitment to contribute to Tunisia's development remains firm. He expressed the conviction that stability in the region could prevail thanks to the far-sightedness of President Habib Bourguiba. The meeting was attended by Mohamed Mzali, Habib Bourguiba Jr., Minister of National Defense Slaheddine Baly, and the two countries' ambassadors.

Mzali Interviewed on Franco-Tunisian Relations

PM031455 Paris LE MONDE in French 27 Oct 83 pp 1, 11

[Interview with Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali by Paul Balta and Michel Deure — date and place not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] Despite the many exchanges of ministerial visits between Paris and Tunis since May 1981, Franco-Tunisian cooperation seems to be marking time and, while relations remain "exemplary and preferential," according to the customary expression, they are causing some disenchantment in your country. What is the position?

[Mzali] Contacts are taking place at all levels and on all common problems. Their tone and quality are those used by countries aware of their responsibilities. If, despite everything, Tunisian-French cooperation still does not seem to us to have lived up to the great hopes placed in it, that is a result not of the left's victory but of the economic situation which France is experiencing at present.

Indeed, this cooperation ought not to be linked to the economic situation. In our view, this concept is the cornerstone of our relations with all countries and, for France, I think it is the test of the reliability and credibility of its postcolonial policy. In addition, cooperation between two sovereign countries which also have a close friendship cannot be subject to moods or temporary whims.

Thus, I regard our cooperation as satisfactory. However, it is vital for us to join together to seek the means of giving it a broader content and stronger bases. In Cancun President Mitterrand defined his concept of real cooperation between developing and industrialized countries; we have explained our view in Paris and in Tunis. I think that our viewpoints coincide. The aim now is to turn words into deeds and to prepare for the future.

[Question] After 27 years of independence the framework of Franco-Tunisian cooperation has, in fact, changed little: Economic, financial, technical, and cultural aid, various contracts, and diplomatic consultations scarcely produce noteworthy initiatives... You clearly want to give this cooperation another dimension. How do you see that dimension?

[Mzali] Bilateral cooperation is well established so that many questions can be settled by departments and joint commissions in order to ease the government's job. Since conventional cooperation is cruising along, it is appropriate to move on to a new stage. The time for fragmented action is over. Our governments must now devote themselves to the essential things, to the common grand designs which bind our national plans. The Tunisians and French must no longer make do with behaving as representatives and traveling salesmen. That is painful and irritating.

I see two weeks [as published] in which our aims can come together: first the development model for countries in which France is interested. Political and social tolerance, the liberalization of mental structures, the simultaneous development of the public and private sectors, the priority given to training and infrastructure, and the diversification of production sectors which we are practicing and which has given reliable results mean that Tunisia is a relatively successful model, while not posing as a perfect model. Our experience may give a lead to some developing countries.

In this context, developing Tunisian-French cooperation and ensuring that socialism and democracy succeed in Tunisia are not only part of bilateral relations for France but also part of the fundamental international option to be the poor countries' partner in development which Francois Mitterrand chose.

Second, there is a particular concept of cooperation. In this bipolar and fragmented world, France, an EEC member, and Tunisia, which belongs to the OAU and Arab League, ought to encourage groupings dictated by history, geography, complementarity, or simply solidarity. Peace in Africa, the Maghreb, and the Near East will surely benefit from that. That is a vast sphere in which the two countries can work together in practical ways to promote peace and development. Finally, our cooperation can and should be renewed, extended, diversified, and enriched. All cooperation must be based on cultural references and not on short-term calculations. Cooperation means implementing a plan together in the two peoples' interest.

[Question] What progress has been made by the policy of democratization and pluralism which took shape when you became government chief 3 years ago? When will the political movements which have been given de facto recognition receive their official authorization? What is the position on the draft charter to which they would first have to adhere?

[Mzali] The policy of democratization is being continued. It has been proclaimed and has come into force. We have real press freedom, and the political movements whose general line corresponds to the national consensus are in de facto operation. Those are two considerable achievements which we must consolidate. We must not open the sluice gates suddenly but must be cautious, in the interest of sound and efficient democratic operation. President Bourguiba knows when and how to take the decisions which the national interest requires.

Es-Sebsi on Sahara, Palestine Issues

PM031629 Paris LE MONDE in French 27 Oct 83 pp 19, 21

[Interview with Foreign Minister Beji Caid es-Sebsi by Paul Balta — date and place not given]

[Text] "The Maghreb is a vital necessity," according to Tunisian Foreign Minister Beji Caid es-Sebsi. That is why the Tunisian leaders have been working for a year to revive the 50-year-old dream of the Greater Arab Maghreb. It is a political, economic, and geographical necessity based on a common language, culture, and history, of which Algeria too is aware. But it is an important necessity for Tunisia, which is caught between two powerful and rich neighbors and which would feel safer in a federal or confederal entity.

Mr Caid es-Sebsi wanted to ignore that aspect. For him "the time has come for regionalization everywhere, including the Arab world." Indeed, he pointed out, the Gulf countries have formed a cooperation council, and Egypt, which has been suspended from the Arab League, is now striving to form a focal point with Sudan and, in future, with other countries.

This is also why Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's Libya is now claiming to belong to a Maghreb on which it had turned its back, thinking that the enterprise was merely an "imperialist maneuver" to divide the Arab world. "Libya must be somewhere, and its natural milieu is the Maghreb," the Tunisian foreign minister pointed out, refraining from specifying whether his unpredictable neighbor is following "out of tactics or out of conviction."

At present the important thing for Tunisia is to "overcome distrust," to overcome the colonial legacy — especially that of the borders, which, for its part, it settled once and for all with Algeria in March 1983 — and to progress gradually by drawing up a cooperation program aimed at economic complementarity. "Moreover," he stressed, "that is what we have done with Algeria; and what we are doing with Libya. Our relations with Morocco are perfect, and we have no problems with Mauritania." In other words, for Tunis, everything is in favor of a "five-member Maghreb."

A "Six-member Maghreb"?

What about a "six-member Maghreb" in the future, with Western Sahara, as Algiers seems to wish? The minister recalled that Tunisia has not recognized the Polisario, still less the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic. But he has not forgotten that President Bourguiba was the first Arab head of state to recognize Mauritania and even to back its entry into the United Nations, at the cost of a crisis with Rabat. He stated cautiously: "If there is a Saharan state one day, its vocation will be to belong to the Maghreb." Meanwhile he stressed that this stumbling block has been "taken in hand by the OAU," which has passed resolutions which Tunis "scrupulously respects."

Mr Caid es-Sebsi, who is "reasonably optimistic," nonetheless recognizes that there are still obstacles on the path to Maghreb building, that the Saharan conflict is a "black spot," and that a "general atmosphere of clarity and understanding" is necessary if progress is to be made. Tunisia's desire for the Maghreb, and its concern to be accomodating toward its partners do not prevent it from adhering to the line and options it has always followed. "Tunisia is not neutral," the minister explained. "Its policy has four dimensions: Arab, Muslim, African, and Mediterranean. We never abandon one of those 'hats' to give preference to another, and we remain faithful to the positions constantly defined by President Bourguiba: firmness on principles, flexibility in their application."

This approach was illustrated recently when the Tunisian leaders, refusing to give in to Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's appeals, refrained from supporting him in his Chadian ambitions, just as, moreover, they did not condemn the French intervention. The minister was reserved on this question and took refuge behind the OAU: "We think that the Chadian conflict must find its solution in the organization's framework alone, and, moreover, we supported its statement on this subject." The reason why Tunisia constantly refers to the OAU, of which it is a founder member, is that, since it does not have common borders with the black African countries, it regards that institution as a link, a forum, and a meeting place which can only help its exchanges with the southern part of the continent. Not forgetting its Arab "hat," it is trying to promote cooperation between white Africa and black Africa and, at present, to change the move by some capitals to reestablish their relations with Israel at a time when the Palestinians are in particular difficulty.

The Tunisian leaders, who welcomed the PLO leadership last year when it left Beirut, are very anxiously following the crisis which is dividing the Palestinian organization and which is setting Damascus against Mr Yasir 'Arafat. Nonetheless they are refraining from taking part in these quarrels. "We have always supported the liberation movements in their just causes, just as we have always refrained from interfering in their affairs. That is fundamental for us," Mr Caid es-Sebsi explained, and he added: "We cooperate with the leaderships chosen by the movements. We support Mr Yasir 'Arafat because he was freely chosen as PLO leader. If the Palestinians wish to choose other leaders we will cooperate with them in the same way. If other Arab countries have a different approach, that is their business."

Seventeen Years After the Jericho Appeal

On the same basis, Tunis feels concerned and worried by the deterioration in the situation in Lebanon and the risks that the country will be partitioned. In this connection Mr Caid es-Sebsi stressed Israel's responsibility. "Lebanon was the only Arab state to have no border problems with Israel following the signing of an armistice agreement a very long time ago," he stressed. "We are now being told about Syria, which has its Arab nationalist concept, its arguments, its occupied territories, and the presence of whose forces in Lebanon is different in nature to those of the Israeli troops. But nobody is talking about Israel any longer, although it bears most responsibility." Faced with the divisions of the Arab world and its inability to settle problems, Tunisia seems to accept this passive attitude. Is this because it has housed the Arab League since its departure from Cairo in 1979 and because it feels bound by a degree of reserve, or simply because it is easier for it to follow the general trend? The minister denied that. In his view, his country must rather have the role of arbiter and remain a forum.

However, Tunisia seems silent, whereas in 1965, 17 years after the foundation of Israel, President Bourguiba had no hesitation, when visiting the Palestinian camp in Jericho, in causing a storm in the Arab world by advocating a negotiated solution based on respect for international law. Indeed, he recommended implementation of the 1947 UN resolution on the plan to partition Palestine, making provision for the coexistence of two states, Palestinian and Israeli. At the time he condemned the "all or nothing" policy and advocated compromise solutions, predicting in Beirut on 11 March 1965 that if the Arab world did not adopt that course it was likely to find itself "at the same situation 17 years later." And, indeed, it was necessary to wait 17 years for the Fes summit to be based broadly on the Tunisian proposal put forward in Jericho. "The Fes peace plan was accepted by all the Arabs (aside from Libya) and especially by the PLO, and that was a revolution," the minister noted, not without satisfaction.

Tunisia, a traditional U.S. friend, admits that the Reagan plan, which followed the Fes plan, is "a step forward," but nonetheless deplores Washington's continued support for the Jewish state, regarding this as a "bonus for aggression." "President Bourguiba repeated that last month to U.S. Vice President George Bush, and reminded him that there can be no solution in the Near East without the PLO. "In fact," Mr Caid es-Sebsi stated, "the Reagan plan creates a deadlock on the Palestinians and disregards their right to self-determination. However, after the Palestinians accepted the Fes plan, which is a peace plan presupposing negotiations, they found all doors closed and came up against a wall. And today, when Israel is allowed to do what it wishes, extremists on all sides are being justified."

ETHIOPIA

TPLF Claims Killing 20 Government Soldiers

EA030952 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Tigrinya 0400 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] Tigre: An enemy force advancing towards (Wegel) from (Kobo) was punished by the Tigre People's Liberation Front [TPLF] forces. In the clash on 27 and 28 October, 20 Dergue soldiers were killed, 30 wounded, and 6 captured.

EPLF Claim 6 Government Military Officers Killed

EA031618 (Clandestine) Voice of Tigre Revolution in Tigrinya to Ethiopia 1345 GMT 03 Nov 83

[Text] Three (?jeeps), one armored vehicle, and one land rover that were transporting enemy soldiers were burned on 27th October on the Akordet-Barentu Road when they drove over landmines planted by the heroic fighters of the Eritrean People's Liberation Front [EPLF]. Two tanks were also burned on 28 October at (Kaalia) when they went over landmines planted by the DPLF. The soldiers traveling in the vehicles on the Akordet-Barentu Road were either killed or wounded. Among the dead were six officers with ranks ranging from captain to colonel.

KENYA

Air Force Officer Wins Appeal in Coup Court Case

EA030938 Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 3 Nov 83 p 1

[Andrew Kuria report: "Ex-KAF Man Wins His Freedom"]

[Excerpt] An ex-lieutenant of the disbanded Kenya Air Force (KAF) won his appeal against death sentence yesterday. Mr Samson Onyango Oburu (24), was set free by the high court. He had been sentenced by a court martial on January 10 in connection with the coup attempt in Kenya on August 1982.

The prosecution had not proved the overt acts preferred against Mr Oburu, a supplies officer at the Nanyuki Air Base. Mr Justice J. H. Todd and Mr Justice E. Okubasu said in their judgement Mr Oburu, the first KAF officer to be sentenced to death for treason, had lodged his appeal through Mr Moses Wetangula. The appeal was heard on October 14. He had been convicted on charges of compassing, imagining and intending to overthrow the government between June and August 1 last year and four overt acts were preferred against him during the court martial proceedings at Langata Barracks, Nairobi.

SEYCHELLES

Mancham Appeals to Reagan for 'Rescue Operation'

MB011915 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1447 GMT 1 Nov 83

[Text] London, Nov 1, SAPA — Former Seychelles leader, Mr James Mancham, today appealed to U.S. President Mr Ronald Reagan to consider "ways and means" of re-establishing democracy in the Indian Ocean islands. Mr Mancham, who was ousted in 1977 in a coup masterminded by the present leftist Seychelles President Mr Albert Rene, declined to say what action he would like to see Mr Reagan take. However, at a press conference here he praised the U.S. intervention in Grenada as a "rescue operation" to assist the restoration of democracy in the Caribbean state.

Mr Mancham, who lives in exile in Britain, called the conference to announce the launch of a new organisation, the Committee for the Restoration of Democracy in Seychelles. However, it met with little response from the media. Only three South African journalists and a reporter from an international news agency turned up at the London hotel where it was held.

Mr Mancham said the Seychelles was now run by a "thug regime" propped up by North Korean and Tanzanian troops.

His appeal to Mr Reagan came in the form of a letter which he has sent to the U.S. President. In the letter Mr Mancham declared that the western Indian Ocean area had become "part of the U.S. hemisphere" because Washington had built a tracking station on the Seychelles island of Mahe and established important naval interests in Diego Garcia.

"I appeal to you, "Mr President," [quotation marks as received] to put into practice the noble principles which have underlined your various presidential utterances and to give positive consideration to ways and means of ensuring that a democratic government returns to the Seychelles," he said. "There is not the least doubt that Rene remains in office because of the presence of North Korean soldiers, who are there with the blessing of the USSR to keep in power an illegal and illegitimate regime which has brought nothing but sadness to a once happy little country."

SOMALIA

Egyptian Trade Agreement Signed 3 November

EA032031 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1400 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Excerpt] The Governments of the Somali Democratic Republic and Egypt today signed a trade agreement in Mogadishu following official talks held at the Ministry of Commerce with an Egyptian economic and trade delegation which has been visiting the country for a week. The agreement was signed on behalf of Somalia by the minister of commerce, Challe Muhammad Umar Jama, and the Egyptian deputy minister of trade, Hasan Ahmad Muhammad, who signed on behalf of his country.

Under the agreement, Somalia and Egypt will strengthen the existing cooperation treaty beteen the two brotherly states. The agreement will allow Somali to ship to Egypt 100,000 head of cattle and 30,000 camels annually. At the same time the possibility of exporting goats to Egypt will be reviewed. The agreement reached between Somalia and Egypt stipulates provisions for the two countries to buy livestock byproducts from each other.

Somalia and Egypt have also agreed to buy from each other agricultural, industrial, and livestock products. The agreement stipulates the joint implementation by the two countries of development projects in Somalia. Consideration is also to be given to other areas in which the two countries could cooperate.

WSLF Fighters Review Strategy, Successes

EA021607 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 11154 GMT 2 Nov 83

[Text] A meeting which was attended by 563 fighters of the Western Somali Liberation Front, WSLF, was held last night at the headquarters of the WSLF here in Mogadishu.

The meeting of the WSLF leaders was held to examine and scrutinize in depth strategy, tactics and how the liberation movement is waging its war against the black colonialist Abyssinia. It was addressed by the WSLF Secretary General Shaykh 'Abd an-Nasir Shaykh Adan.

The secretary general spoke in detail on the overall struggle of the movement. The secretary said that the fighters of the liberation movement continue to wage war against the black colonizers of Abyssinia by day and by night. The secretary general said the latest major battle between the WSLF liberation fighters and the black colonialist forces took place at Babile, which is just 35 km east of Harar city. In the engagement, the enemy Abyssinia forces lost (?30) soldiers killed and 73 others wounded.

The secretary general added that another surprise attack launched by the WSLF fighters in Kabri Dahr District resulted in the burning of several military vehicles from the Abyssinian enemy and the killing and wounding of many soldiers.

The meeting was also addressed by WSLF Defense Secretary Muhammad Ugas Abdi.

UGANDA

Chief of Staff Says Banditry No Problem

EA029132 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 2 Nov 83

[Text] The chief of staff Major General David Oyite Ojok, has declared that the only problem remaining in Uganda is of catching up with other African countries and the rest of the world after the period when Ugandans were being trampled at home. Taking part in what was termed a public discussion at Nakerere University main hall on the topic of politics of banditry and the problems of combating it, the chief of staff declared that banditry is no longer a problem. He blamed the persistence of banditry on dishonesty among Ugandans. The problem of combating banditry, he declared, is a problem of all of us regardless of political affiliation or religion. He said there is nothing the Army does not have now to combat banditry. He said the Army has been using minimum force in combating banditry because of two main reasons. First, because of the government policy of reconciliation and, secondly because bandits were holding a lot of people at ransom.

He called for cooperation from everybody in this human approach which has born fruit in government efforts to combat banditry. He stressed tht the talk of going to the bush after the 1980 general electins is an insult to the intellgence of the entire people of Uganda. He said the people of Uganda have reached a stage of electing their own representatives.

Turning to the politics of banditry, the chief of staff said the policy of banditry means belonging to parties whose leaders went to the bush and some supporters who remained behind are happy working with their leaders. To keep their jobs and be happy when supporting bandits is the politics of banditry, he said amid applause.

He strongly advised Makerere University students against being confused by some people and said the future belongs to the youth, and they must not allow themselves to be confused.

He invited Makerere University students to apply for jobs in the Armed Forces, and said the Armed Forces needs their brains in all its departments to handle sophisticated equipment they are acquiring.

The minister of state for defense, Mr Peter Otai, pointed out that the 1980 elections were free and fair, and that those who used the excuse that they were rigged in order to go to the bush are naive. The minister asked the students of the university to be in the lead in dispelling the rumor that is was the rigging of elections that prompted bandits to go to the bush, and called upon them to ride together with the Uganda People's Congress wagon of ideas and (?best) of leadership.

Mr Otai amid applause informed the university community that the leaders of the Uganda National Liberation Front government had no political base in Uganda. They ruled by arbitrary means and had no political experience whatsoever.

He told the audience that bandits were the usurpers of power at Moshi in 1979. The minister reiterated that the Uganda People's Congress government is determined to protect the people of Uganda and their property.

Mr Otai talked at length about the Army before and after liberation, and assured the university community that the training of the Army is continuing, and that discipline has remarkably improved.

Another participant in the discussions was the minister of state in the office of the president, Mr Chris Rwakasisi, who said the Uganda People's Congress is the only democratic party in Uganda that wants peace. He accused Democratic Party of collaborating with bandits. Mr Rwakasisi added that Museveni's [Uganda Patriotic Movement leader] participation in the elections of 1980 was a smoke screen for his ill intentions.

The three speakers were welcomed by the vice-chancellor of Makerere University, Professor Asavia Wandire.

Memorandum of Understanding on FRG Aid Signed

EA032217 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] Uganda and West Germany have signed a memorandum of understanding covering technical and financial aid to Uganda. The memorandum was signed by the permanent secretary to the Ministry of Planning and Economic Development, Mr (Okune), and Mr (von Kopenfeld) of the West German Ministry of Economic Cooperation. The financial program involves the repair and maintenance of the Malaba-Jinja road, the Uganda Railways Corporation and the share contribution [as heard] to the Uganda Development Finance Company and commodity aid.

The technical program includes a water workshop, commodity aid, technical assistance for the faculty of veterinary medicine (?of) Makerere University at Bundongo saw mill. All programmes will be carried out in the current financial year.

The 1981 program is to the tune of dm17.2 million 11 million of which is allocated for financial cooperation and 6.2 million for technical cooperation.

The 1983 program of assistance involves DM27 million 20 million of which will go towards economic cooperation and the rest to technical cooperation.

The 1984 program involves dm20 million 15 million of which is allocated to financial and five to technical cooperation.

The West German ambassador, Mr Held, said his country has an active interest in the development of Uganda and that his government will help as much as it can towards this goal. The next round of negotiations in economic cooperation between the two countries will take place in Bonn in December.

GHANA

Spain Donates 2500 Tons of Wheat to Country

AB031920 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] The Spanish Government today donated 2,500 tons of wheat worth $600,000 to Ghana. Presenting the gift at a ceremony at the Tema Harbor, the Spanish ambassador to Ghana, Jose Maria Sierra y Nava, said the food is an indication of the interest his country has in Ghana. It also shows the efforts being made by the Spanish Government to help overcome Ghana's present economic difficulties. The ambassador expressed the hope that the donation would go a long way to improve the existing cordial relations between the two countries. Receiving the gift, the secretary for finance and economic planning, Dr Kwesi Botchway, expressed the government's gratitude to the government and people of Spain. He, however, emphasized that this aid could not be a substitute for Ghana's efforts to overcome its problems, but would rather supplement attempts to solve the food situation. Dr Botchway said the government has, over the past 2 years, been making every effort to increase agricultural output. But this has not yielded the desired result due to unfavorable climatic conditions.

Enin Says Statement Due on Opening Universities

AB022130 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 2 Nov 83

[Text] The government will soon come out with statement on the reopening of the country's three universities. This was announced by a member of the Provisional National Defense Council, Mrs Aanaa Enin, when she opened a 3-day seminar on the role of the university in national development in Kumasi. Mrs Enin called for the clear expression of the role of all those concerned with higher education that would enable the government to reach meaningful decisions on the universities. She said with good management, it should be possible for the universities to contribute more to their own upkeep. Mrs Enin said while course structures must be related to national development goals, research activities should complement the solution of grass-root problems. She commended the University of Science and Technology Consultancy Center for mounting an exhibition in Accra to demonstrate its resourcefulness and hoped the other universities would show similar results.

Three Cape Coast WDC Members Suspended

AB032100 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] Three members of the Cape Coast Central Workers Defense Committee [WDC] have been suspended from office with immediate effect. The secretary for WDCs and People's Defense Committees, Mr Akrasi-Sarpong, told a meeting in Cape Coast that the three members would stay out of office unitl investigations into allegations against them have been completed. It is alleged that the members had a pepper barrack [as heard] where they imposed heavy fines on and caned alleged offenders. According to the GHANA NEWS AGENCY, a case in point is that the members fined one person 17,000 cedis but issued no receipt to him. Mr Akrasi-Sarpong announced the establishment of an interim body to collect views on how the Cape Coast Central WDC should operate. Other reports said workers of Sekondi have called for a probe into the activities of the dissolved Central Steering Committee of WDCs in the Western Region. In a resolution, the workers supported the dissolution of the Central Steering Committee.

62 Die From Yellow Fever in Northern Region

AB022100 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 2 Nov 83

[Text] An outbreak of yellow fever in the Northern Region has claimed the lives of 62 people in two districts. The acting regional medical officer of health, Dr Sam Bugri, who disclosed this to the Ghana Broadcasting Corporation at Tamale, said 32 deaths were recorded at the Damongo-Bole area, while 30 were registered in Mamprusi district. Dr Bugri said the Ministry of Health has launched a program to fight the disease. The field staff of the ministry has embarked on an immunization program in several parts of the region. There is also an aerial spraying program to rid the region of mosquitoes. Dr Bugri said the main constraints facing the ministry are the inadequate supply of vaccines and fuel.

MALI

President Traore Ends Visit to Guinea-Bissau

AB032100 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] President Moussa Traore's 3-day official visit to Guinea-Bissau ended this morning. Before leaving Bissau, the two heads of state met at the Oval Hall of the Guinea-Bissau Foreign Affairs Ministry to sign the final documents, that is to say, the treaty of friendship and cooperation, the protocol creating the Grand Mali-Guinea-Bissau Joint Commission, and the final communique, which was read by Alioune Blondin Beye. Here are a few extracts from the final communique:

Moved by the desire to expand and better the bonds of friendship, fraternity, and solidarity between Malians and their Guinea-Bissau counterparts, the two heads of state, during their discussions, examined the possibilities of strengthening the cooperation existing between the two countries. This is for bilateral cooperation.

The grand joint commission, which will soon be established, will oversee the intensification of trade between Mali and Guinea-Bissau. Second, the final communique stipulates that Presidents Moussa Traore and Joao Bernardo Vieira examined the most important current African and international issues. In short, our two heads of state stated that in all the conflicts — Chad, Western Sahara, and the rest — which are threatening the unity of the continent, recourse to the OAU and respect for its resolutions are of cardinal importance in order to put an end to foreign interference. It is also important to always remember the key principles which constitute the power of and the basis for the pan-African organization, for example, the maintenance of existing borders, the right of peoples to self-determination and independence, and the need for positive good neighborliness through strong bonds of cooperation. They also expressed their support for the Namibian cause under the leadership of SWAPO, condemned racist South Africa's attacks on the frontline countries, and also condemned the Zionist state's acts of genocide against the Palestinian people. They also urgently appealed to Iraq and Iran to stop the Gulf war. Finally, they called for the strengthening of South-South cooperation.

Before Traore left Bissau for Dakar, the two presidents replied to questions put to them during a press conference by our Guinea-Bissau counterpart. General Moussa Traore reaffirmed that our countries have much to gain from intensifying trade between them. Let us first listen to Moussa Traore.

[Begin recording] [Traore] Africa and Africans have become conscious of their (?responsibility) when they met in an extraordinary summit in Lagos in April 1980 in order to discuss Africa's economic and community problems. During this summit, we decided to create subregional entities in order to enhance the economic cooperation among African countries. Since Africa itself has felt the need for the establishment of subregional organizations, it is up to the countries of the same subregion to further strengthen their relations, notably in the field of economy.

That is why, in West Africa, other organizations were established in order to promote subregional economy, especially, the West African Economic Community and the Ecowas. But beyond these two economic communities, Mali and Guinea-Bissau have felt the need to first of all strengthen their economies and later strengthen their cooperation and to make it an example of South-South cooperation. Therefore, there is nothing strange when the president of Mali pays a visit to his brother and friend, the president of Guinea-Bissau, for the strengthening of the cooperation between the two peoples. [end recording]

As for President Bernardo Vieira, he stated that this official visit paid by the Malian head of state has responded to his desire of holding discussions and working sessions.

PCT Delegation Ends Visit; Protocol Signed

AB031200 Bamako Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] The Congolese Labor Party [PCT] delegation has ended a 1-week friendship visit to our country. This delegation was led by Bernard Combo-Matsiona, member of the PCT Central Committee and minister of labor and social security.

According to Mr Combo, this visit to Mali made it possible to strengthen the relations already existing between the two countries. Yesterday morning a protocol of agreement on cooperation was signed between the PCT and the Democratic Union of Malian People. The Congolese delegation was then received in audience by various top officials of our country.

SENEGAL

President Diouf Interviewed on Algiers Visit

PM030942 Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 18 Oct 83 p 12

[Interview with President Abdou Diouf by APS in Algiers — date not given]

[Excerpts] Algiers — [Question] Mr President, with regard to your first official visit to Algeria, in what context do you place this visit with a view to giving new impetus to bilateral relations?

[Diouf] My first visit to Algeria as president of the Republic of Senegal has been a major turning-point in relations between the two countries. Thanks to the fruitful talks which the two delegations have had, it has provided an opportunity to review all political questions of common interest, but also, and above all, to take joint decisions likely to strengthen economic, technical, and cultural cooperation between the two countries. An appropriate institutional and legal framework already existed, notably a joint commission and sector agreements. The measures taken will, among other things, make it possible to considerably increase the volume of trade and to jointly implement economic development projects.

The next session of the joint commission, which will be held in Dakar in January 1984, has already received precise directives to ensure that all the potential is exploited in sharing the two countries' complementary experiences and resources for their mutual benefit.

[Question] In the framework of North-South dialogue and in view of the few results recorded, the Third World countries, including Senegal, give preference to South-South cooperation. Mr President, what is your assessment of the initial results of this action?

[Diouf] Senegal, like Algeria, supports all the efforts being made at various levels to promote North-South dialogue with a view to establishing a new more just and equitable international economic order. But, in view of that dialogue's lack of success, the strategy of withdrawal in the shape of South-South cooperation, which in no way rules out the North's intervention, is an important part of Senegal's foreign policy.

For instance, approaching cooperation in terms of concentric circles, Senagal and its immediate neighbors have embarked on the development of their river basins to attain self-sufficiency in food and to permit the creation of poles of development. Beyond this first circle, there is the creation of trade areas organized in West Africa through economic communities. At continental level, the Lagos plan of action adopted by the OAU economic summit in April 1980 is an important tool of African economic, cultural, and social promotion for Senagal.

It must be added that Senagal attaches just as much importance to all the initiatives taken within groupings like the Islamic Conference Organization, the Group of 77, and the Nonaligned Movement to establish fruitful cooperation among the developing countries. With regard to this last dimension, Senegal and Algeria have pledged during the visit to make every effort to develop Arab-African cooperation, which has major potential since the two regions' situations are complementary in several respects. From a comprehensive viewpoint, the results of South-South cooperation are appreciable and the prospects are good.

[Question] With regard to African and the hotbeds of tension which trouble it, you are playing a personal and prominent role in the peaceful settlement of conflicts. If you had to assess the burning issues and the attempts to settle them, what would you say?

[Diouf] At present Africa is being put to a severe test as a result of the South African Government's odious apartheid policy, the illegal occupation of Namibia, and the persistence of fratricidal conflicts, such as those in Chad, West Sahara, and the Horn of Africa. As you know, many efforts have already been made to solve those conflicts, which carry the seeds of our continent's destabilization at the very time when its development requires the mobilization of all available energies. That is why Senegal has always considered it to be its duty to join all initiatives aimed at preserving peace and security in Africa. It is in this spirit that, with regard to the Namibian problem, to be specific, we have always asked the international community to exert all the necessary pressure on South Africa to make it conform to the provisions of the relevant UN resolutions and more especially to Security Council Resolution 435.

With regard to the Chadian and West Saharan questions, the efforts being made within the OAU framework will have to be continued and stepped up in order to achieve just and equitable solutions as quickly as possible — solutions which are likely to preserve peace and stability in those regions. In any case, Senegal, which has always asserted the Saharan people's right to self-determination and advocated national reconciliation in Chad free from any form of foreign interference, will continue its action, as in the past, in cooperation with the other African countries with a veiw to finding a lasting solution to these fratricidal conflicts, in the interest of the peoples concerned, of Africa, and international peace and security.

[Question] Algeria and Senegal are campaigning to strengthen the Nonaligned Movement's action on the world stage. Mr President, what do you think are the main lines of that action?

[Diouf] As you know, Algeria and Senegal belong to the Nonaligned Movement. This deliberate choice is the result of their unshakable desire to preserve their dearly-bought independence, thus demonstrating their ambition to overcome the world's division into rival blocs and to replace it with an international society truly liberated from the balance of power.

This aspiration of the developing countries, which corresponded to the decolonization period, could not find a better framework for development than the Nonaligned Movement, but you will agree that the undertaking was dangerous because the challenge was so great, and that is how attempts to divide the movement have been observed here and there, all possibly aimed at pushing the Third World further to the fringes — a world which is often misunderstood but whose voice was increasingly gaining respect. It is in this spirit that our two countries have always joined together in international bodies to defend the ideals of justice, peace, and equality among nations. However the movement will have to adapt its strategy to the situation in the contemporary world.

Indeed the nonaligned countries, which all belong to the Third World, are at present ravaged by underdevelopment with its procession of ills, namely hunger, illiteracy, and malnutrition. Even though political demands remain legitimate, the Nonaligned Movement must henceforth devote itself to satisfying the basic needs of the peoples in the states which comprise it. Thus the economic and cultural struggles are being imposed on it and ought to mobilize all the member countries' energies. It is in this way that the New Delhi economic statement meets the current aspirations since it proposes solutions to the present world economic chaos. The guidelines of that historic declaration, which have as much importance as the principles which gave rise to the Bandung movement in 1955, must guide the main lines of all the movement's future action. I am convinced that this is in keeping with Senegal's and Algeria's concerns.

Mali's President Traore Arrives in Dakar

AB031610 Dakar Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text]General Moussa Traore, president of the Republic of Mali, arrived in Dakar this morning for a friendly working visit to Senegal. He was welcomed by President Abdou Diouf, [name indistinct], president of the Economic and Social Council, members of the government, General Idrissa Fall, chief of general staff, and General Wali Faye, director of the gendarmerie and military courts. After the first round of private talks with President Diouf, the Malian leader replied to some questions from the press.

[Begin recording] [unidentified reporter] Mr President, your country has made the headlines of Africa news media after its admission into the West African Monetary Union [UMOA]. What do you think will be the effect of this admission on relations between Senegal and Mali on one hand and at the level of the Senegal River Development Organization [OMVS] on the other?

[Traore] I would first of all like to say that the admission of my country into the UMOA was provided for in French-Malian monetary agreements. It is therefore normal for Mali to make the headlines. Concerning the effect of this admission on relations with Senegal, we should believe that this will bear favorable results at all levels, especially at the political and economic levels. As for the OMVS, this will strengthen the brotherly relations already existing between the countries of the subregion. [end recording]

President Moussa Traore then talked about the subjects that he will discuss with President Abdou Diouf.

[Begin Traore recording] We will discuss our bilateral relations which are excellent but which we should strengthen and develop. As our continental organization has faced serious problems of late, we will also try to find solutions that will help the continental organization to [words indistinct] [end recording]

Niasse Honors Outgoing PLO Envoy Khalil

AB031830 Dakar Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] 'Abu Khalil, PLO ambassador in Dakar, leaves Senegal for good after a 9-year assignment. On the occasion of his departure, Mustapha Niasse, the minister of state for foreign affairs, held a reception in honor of the outgoing PLO diplomat at the Novotel. This is Diallo's report:

[Diallo] It is often said that every separation is a sad occasion, especially when it has to do with relations of several years based on the bonds of history, geography, and deep convictions.

Thus, after almost 10 years in Senegal, our Brother 'Abu Khalil is leaving us for other places after fully accomplishing his mission of further strengthening the links between Senegal and the PLO, links which also exist between the Palestinian and Senegalese people.

'Abu Khalil became a Senegalese among the Senegalese, coming into contact with Senegalese families, sharing with them their joys and pains. That is why, Mustapha Niasse, minister of state for foreign affairs, paid him a glowing tribute for the positive and eminent role he played in strethening and developing the relations between the PLO and Senegal.

[Begin Niasse recording] The results you have obtained in the accomplishment of this mission, and which we are all solemnly saluting today, are eloquent, and show that Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, through you, wanted to show how eager he and the PLO Executive Committee were to establish excellent relations with our country.

How, therefore, can we forget Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's visit to Senegal in 1977, and how can we forget the permanent consultations established between our country and the PLO to examine together problems of mutual interest to our leaders, especially the situation in the Middle East and Lebanon, whose major factor is the refusal of the Zionist and racist State of Israel to recognize in international law the legitimate and inalienable rights of the Palestinian people under the clear-sighted and courageous leadership of its only and genuine representative, the PLO. [end recording]

After recalling the role played by Senegal in the struggle for the recognition of the PLO and after recalling the role played by our country within the international bodies, Mustapha Niasse wished 'Abu Khalil a good return home.

'Abu Khalil, in his reply, recalled that the support given to the PLO has been one sided for Senegal, which gave too much for the cause of the PLO. 'Abu Khalil pointed out that Senegal was the first country south of the Sahara to accept a PLO office, just as Senegal had the task of presiding over the special committee for the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people right from the day that committee was created.

Finally, the PLO ambassador stressed, Senegal has been on the side of the Palestinians in all the international bodies and has always adopted a clearcut stand.

UPPER VOLTA

Cuban Envoy Condemns U.S. on Grenada

AB031615 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] Captain Thomas Sankara received in audience this morning His Excellency Eduardo Barbin, the Cuban ambassador to our country. At the end of the audience, the Cuban diplomat discussed the outcome of his talks with the Upper Voltan leader.

[Begin Barbin recording in Spanish fading into French translation] In concrete terms, my visit to this country is aimed at informing the Upper Voltan Government about the situation in the Caribbean and in Latin America. This situation has been created by North American imperialism directed against the brotherly people of Grenada. A country like Grenada, which only has a surface area of 340 km and 100,000 inhabitants, was attacked by an empire like the United States which has a surface area of 9 million km and 200 million inhabitants. It was a heroic event for the American people, but for the people fighting for their liberation, it was a very sad event.

There were also some Cubans working over there within the framework of internationalism. The Cubans helped the Grenadans to resist, and we are also aware that a number of Cubans were killed but up to now, we do not know how many Cubans were killed. We do not know the number because the North American imperialist government is not releasing the exact figures. These are the issues that I explained to the brotherly Upper Voltan Government regarding the situation in Grenada, and I also asked for support from the Upper Voltan Government and people for the people and Government of Grenada. Today this invasion is taking place in a small Latin American [as heard] country. Tomorrow this invasion could take in any other Latin American country or in an African country. This is why it is essential that all countries who believe in peace and solidarity unite and condemn this serious invasion. [end recording]

Albanian Ambassador Presents Credentials

AB022210 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 2 Nov 83

[Excerpt] Head of state Comrade Thomas Sankara has just returned from Po where he presided over a ceremony to mark the presentation of the letters of credence by the ambassador of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania this afternoon. Habibata Dembele, you were present at the ceremony:

Yes, the ceremony took place at the Paratroop National Training Center in the presence of Comrade Blaise Compaore, minister of state to the presidency and chief of the Po Army Corps; and Arbah Diallo, the minister of foreign affairs. Let us listen to Albanian Ambassador Nesip Kaci addressing the head of state:

[Begin recording] Comrade chairman of the National Council of the Revolution, [CNR] and Upper Voltan head of state Thomas Sankara. Comrade, I have the honor and the great pleasure to present my credentials as ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania to the Republic of Upper Volta. I am also very pleased to convey to you the brotherly, warm greetings of Comrade Ramiz Alia, the chairman of the Presidium of the People's Assembly of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania, and of our people.

The People's Socialist Republic of Albania highly appreciates the 4 August insurrection in Upper Volta and the advent of the CNR. These are very important events, because the overthrow of Jean-Baptiste Ouedrago's reactionary, anarchronistic, and feudal regime is a victory over imperialism, colonialsm, and neocolonialism, as well as their national allies. The event of 4 August 1983 is for the people of Upper Volta a resounding victory over the foreign forces of oppression and exploitation, and over the Upper Voltan bourgeoisie. These events are concrete factors militating for our government's support to the new government formed in Upper Volta after 4 August 1983. They also militate for good relations between our peoples and governments.

Comrade, the Albanian people, who have been educated by the Albanian Workers Party and its leader Comrade Enver Hoxha with internationalist feeling and awareness, will always be at the side of the Upper Voltan people in their struggle against imperialism, colonialism, and neocolonialism. So you are not alone in this brave struggle. On the contrary, all revolutionary people join the Upper Voltan people at your side.

Comrade, we are happy with the victory of the Upper Voltan people and with the progress of the revolution, and we are very much interested in your country's struggle and battles against imperialism. The People's Socialist Republic of Albania and its people are always ready to maintain, promote, and strengthen their friendly and brotherly relations with the Republic of Upper Volta and its people. Already, we are sure that we will find in your government and among your people the necessay cooperation and conditions for the accomplishment of the very exciting task assigned to us. Long live Captain Thomas Sankara! Long live Comrade Enver Hoxha! Long live the friendship between the Republic of Upper Volta and the People's Socialist Republic of Albania. [end recording]

This was the first time an Albanian ambassador has presented his credentials in our country, and it has a great significance for the Upper Voltan revolutionary movement. We will examine this again later. Meanwhile, you should note that Ambassador Nesip Kaci, who is resident in Algiers, was born in 1939.

No Yellow Fever Cases Reported in Ouagadougou

AB031605 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Press communique issued by Committee for the Fight Against Yellow Fever in Ouagadougou on 3 November]

[Excerpt] The Committee for the Fight Against Yellow Fever informs Ouagadougou inhabitants that there is no reason to worry about the yellow fever epidemic. Since the beginning of operations, more than 200,000 people have been vaccinated and,better still, no cases have been reported in the area. Efforts are presently concentrated on the affected areas which need more urgent aid.

ANGOLA

FAPLA Kills 37 UNITA 'Bandits' in 4 Provinces

MB020920 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 2 Nov 83

[Text] Over 37 UNITA bandits were killed in military actions carried out recently in Cuanza Sul, Benguela, Huambo, and Moxico Provinces by the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] and the People's Defense Organization [ODP]. In Cuanza Sul workers integrated in the ODP attacked and destroyed a base of the UNITA counterrevolutionaries some 31 km from (Uacucungo), killing seven bandits and capturing another. Also in that province, FAPLA ambushed an enemy group in Quibala, killing 10 UNITA counterrevolutionaries and capturing a large quantity of war materiel. In Benguela the Angolan Armed Forces attacked a group of bandits who were trying to establish themselves in Balombo municipality, capturing one counterrevolutionary and seizing a quantity of military materiel and equipment. Another 18 UNITA bandits were killed by FAPLA in Moxico when an enemy group was attacked in the Lehua area. A number of light weapons were seized. In the Cutato area of Huambo Province another two UNITA bandits were killed and a number of civilians were freed from the puppets' murderous claws in recent clashes.

The swift response given by FAPLA to the movement of enemy forces deep inside the People's Republic of Angola has initiated a continual state of disorganization among UNITA gangsters who, unable to organize themselves and fight off the Angolan Armed Forces, are directing their criminal actions against defenseless civilians. In the face of these enemy actions, the Angolan people have resolved to defend themselves by continuing to join FAPLA, vigilante brigades, and the ODP.

'Hundreds' UNITA Members Killed

MB030920 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] Hundreds of UNITA bandits have been killed and about 1,000 civilians freed following a very successful vast operation mounted by the glorious People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] and the People's Defense Organization [ODP] about 50 km from (Chitengo) in Bie Province. Side by side with this operation, the ODP pursued a small group of puppets, capturing two bandits and seizing a quantity of military materiel. In the (Chitico) area of Huila Province, FAPLA forces inflicted 30 casualties on a group of bandits who were trying to establish themselves in the (Ndolo) region and freed about 70 civilians held by the counterrevolutionaries. In Huambo Province, FAPLA carried out actions some 70 km from Mungo, where they destroyed a UNITA base and freed three FAPLA and two ODP fighters as well as eight civilians held by the puppets.

Meanwhile, young men are getting ready to reinforce the Armed Forces. First Lieutenant (Hugo dos Passos), the head of recruitment and mobilization for Luanda Province, has said in Luanda that the military induction period will be extended for a few more days to enable young men who have not yet reported for various reasons to do so, thus ending their unresponsiveness to regulations.

FAPLA Operations in Huambo

MB311340 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0700 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Text] An extraordinary meeting of all members of the Huambo Provincial Commission and some representatives and directors of the province's governmental organizations was held in Huambo City yesterday. The meeting is aimed at analyzing defense tasks and issues concerning the people's vigilante brigades, which must be turned into organized bases of our rearguard forces. The provincial commissioner of Huambo, Lieutenant Colonel Joao Ernesto dos Santos Liberdade, announced the success achieved by the Angolan Armed Forces in that province in the offensive against UNITA counterrevolutionary gangsters. Lt Col Joao Ernesto dos Santos said that in some operations carried out recently by our paramilitary forces in Huambo municipality, at Chiva and (Belem) to be precise, dozens of civilians and heads of cattle were freed and recovered from the puppets' claws. A large quantity of war materiel of U.S. and South African origin was captured, as well as two elements of the UNITA counterrevolutionary gang. Joao Ernesto dos Santos Liberdade also announced some casualties inflicted on the puppets, as well as the destruction of an enemy base in the Chiva area.

UNITA Infiltrator Presented to Press in Huambo

MB300904 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Text] Another UNITA counterrevolutionary was presented to the Huambo information media the day before yesterday. He had infiltrated the National Telecommunication Enterprise, where he occupied the post of the head of the telephone exchange center in that province. (Raul Jeremias Mangele), who was neutralized by the state security force, intercepted military communications which he subsequently passed to his superiors who thereby possessed advance information on the departure and positions of the People's Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] columns.

During the 9 months he was in contact with UNITA, the counterrevolutionary listened to messages exchanged by senior officials of the MPLA-Labor Party and government, which he then passed on to the counterrevolutionaries. He received UNITA bandits in his own house and gave them food and information, which enabled them to carry out acts of sabotage in various areas of Huambo Province. This counterrevolutionary was assisted by his female cousin, who, according to him, engineered and assisted in contacting the bandits. In statements made following his detention, the counterrevolutionary acknowledged his conscious participation in acts of subversion against the People's Republic of Angola, placing in danger the lives of hundreds of FAPLA fighters and violating the professional career code of ethics to the detriment of some state secrets. However, the Angolan people know how to defend themselves from enemy actions and are continuing with the country's reconstruction for the creation of a new society.

Curfew Imposed on Bie, Huambo Provinces

MB300745 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Text] In Huambo Province the regional military council has held its third ordinary session to examine issues connected with the development of the political and military sectors of the fourth region, which comprises Bie and Huambo Provinces. The decisions taken during the meeting include the following two considered important for a greater control of the citizens: the imposition of curfew in that region from 2200-0500 hours as of 1 November 1983, and the alteration of working hours for enterprises from 0700-1200 and from 1400-1700 hours during the week and from 0800-1200 hours on Saturdays.

Voice of Resistance Reports UNITA Operations

16-30 September

MB281503 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Angola 0430 GMT 28 Oct 83

["Operational information bulletin issued by the Office of Operations of the Strategic Operational Command" — date not given]

[Text] While preparations are under way for the coming general offensive, the Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FALA] are keeping the enemy under heavy fire on all fronts. FALA carried out various fighting actions 16-30 September 1983, including the following:

In Moxico Province on 25 September 1983 a bomb planted by our forces in Luso city at the former command post of the eastern military zone resulted in the partial destruction of the building and the death of three traitors of the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA]. This action was the cause for arbitrary arrests and the imposition of a curfew in the whole city. In the same city on 26 September 1983 two FAPLA bandits shot at each other because they had been chosen to take part in operations against UNITA.

In Bie Province on 23 September 1983 the bridge over Cutato River on the way to Andulo was destroyed. On 29 September 1983 heavy blows were inflicted on the enemy defending the position at Chitembo. A total of 59 FAPLA traitors were killed in this action as well as 2 Cuban mercenary technicians. Captured were 76 small arms, 17 artillery pieces, 9 anti-aircraft guns, 613,872 rounds of ammunition of various calibers, and 130 assorted shells. The road bridge there was also destroyed.

In Huambo Province on 29 September 1983 FALA attacked a marching enemy column estimated to be a strengthened battalion some 4 km from Belo Horizonte, resulting in the death of 34 FAPLA traitors, 3 Portuguese of the state security, and 5 Cuban mercenaries. A total of 19 Czechoslovak AK's, 13 RPG-7's, 3 82-mm mortars, and 2 12.7-mm anti-aircraft guns were captured. The head of battalion, (Clementio Divua), was captured.

In Lunda Province on 27 September 1983 our forces attacked an enemy motorized column some 8 km from Cuilo between Lubalo and Cuilo. A total of 8 vehicles were destroyed and 24 rifles were captured, while the remaining ones were burned, together with the vehicles. In Benguela Province on 21 September 1983 an antivehicle mine planted by our forces between (Balabata) and Canjola resulted in the destruction of a Berliet military vehicle and the death of all its occupants. On 30 September 1983 UNITA forces ambushed the enemy between Cubal and Mariano Machado. A (David-Brown) tractor with registration number 83-75 was destroyed.

In Cuanza Norte Province on 25 September 1983 FALA attacked and occupied the Longa enemy barracks. A total of 39 rifles were captured as well as 4 82-mm mortars, 6 RPG-7's, 14,867 rounds of assorted ammunition, Cuban mail, and 4,862,835 kwanzas in currency. Two Zil vehicles, one Kraz vehicle, and three Land Rovers were destroyed. In Cuanza Sul Province on 26 September 1983 our forces attacked and took the (Atena) location in (Quicombo), a fishery, and industrial center. A total of 61 FAPLA traitors were killed as well as 5 Cuban mercenaries. A total of 83 small arms, 19 heavy weapons, and 9 boxes of ammunition were captured. Destroyed were 7 vehicles and 1,640 people were freed. In Malange Province at 0200 on 21 September 1983 a mine planted by our forces on the Angola railway between Lombe and Zanga resulted in the destruction of a locomotive, the derailment of 14 cars, damage to 50 sections of rail, and the death of the engineer and 3 assistants. At 2400 on 23 September 1983 24 sections of rail between Cacuso and Matete were destroyed on the same line.

In conclusion, in Cuando Cubango Province on 17 September 1983 heavy blows were inflicted on a battalion of the 60th Brigade in (Vissati). A total of 72 FAPLA traitors and 19 People's Defense Organization members were killed. Captured were: 57 small arms, 4 machineguns, 1 75-mm cannon, 2 122-mm rocket launchers, and 13 RPG-7's. On 23 September 1983 a FALA counterattack on an enemy brigade from Cuito-Cuanavale in the (Chambinga) River area resulted in the death of 113 FAPLA traitors and 12 Cuban mercenaries and the capture of 197 small arms and heavy weapons. A total of 12 FAPLA men were captured, including Second Lieutenant (Karipande Ingles) and First Lieutenant (Venancio Quibeto). During this period UNITA forces suffered 7 dead and 19 wounded.

1-15 October

MB311734 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Angola 0430 GMT 30 Oct 83

["Operational information bulletin issued by the Office of Operations of the Strategic Operational Command" — date not given]

[Text] The Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FALA] carried out various fighting actions 1-15 October 1983, including the following:

In Moxico Province our forces attacked a supply column traveling from Luso to Henrique de Carvalho on 1 October 1983, destroying 7 vehicles and killing 36 traitors of the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA], 16 members of the People's Defense Organization [ODP], and 3 members of the Luena state security. The following war materiel was captured: 47 small arms, 8 12.7-mm machineguns, 1 82-mm mortar, 371 assorted shells, 12,527 rounds of assorted ammunition, and 1 (Racal) two-way radio. On 9 October 1983 FALA attacked the (Camela) position, resulting in the death of 21 FAPLA and 12 ODP traitors. Two FAPLA officers were captured: First Lieutenant (Alfredo Soama) and Second Lieutenant (Bernardino Barata). A total of 29 small arms, 2 82-mm mortars, 1 B-10 cannon, 6 RPG-7's, 169 60-mm shells, and 296,479 rounds of assorted ammunition were also captured.

In Bie Province on 6 October 1983 heavy blows were inflicted on the enemy battalion at Soma Cuanza. A total of 73 FAPLA and 19 ODP traitors were killed. Hundreds of weapons were captured, including heavy weapons and small arms. A total of 6 vehicles were destroyed and 941 people freed. On 10 October 1983 36 armed men who were part of the enemy force which retreated from the Soma Cuanza position surrendered to UNITA forces. On 13 October 1983 a FALA attack on a Berliet vehicle between Bie and Chinguar resulted in the destruction of the vehicle and death of 17 FAPLA traitors and 1 Cuban mercenary. The remaining men abandoned the vehicle and fled.

In Huambo Province on 7 October 1983 a mine planted by our forces between Lungue and Chiumbo resulted in the death of the head of the ODP in Chiumbo and the destruction of a Star vehicle. On 10 October 1983 74 people presented themselves to UNITA forces coming from Chiumbo. They confirmed the death of 20 members of ODP and 6 FAPLA soldiers as a result of mines on 7 October 1983. In Lunda Province on 9 October 1983 UNITA forces throughout the Camaxilo area carried out reconnaissance against the Soviet-Cuban expansionism in Angola with the participation of 1,300 people. As a result, on 11 October 1983 the ODP of this area gave up to UNITA forces 17 AK's, 8 PPSH's, 1 81-mm mortar, and 6 RPG-7's. In Benguela Province on 5 October 1983 three vehicles were destroyed along the Bocoio-Benguela road. On 8 October 1983 19 young men coming from the surrounding wards of Benguela city presented themselves to UNITA forces. They told us that the cities are experiencing shortages of means of survival, forced recruitment, arbitrary arrests, Cubans raping Angolan women, and worsening relations between FAPLA and the Cubans. They deserted to avoid death, because they had already been enrolled to join the Army.

In Cuanza Sul Province on 3 October 1983 our forces attacked a 16-vehicle column along the Gabela-Quibala road. A total of 9 vehicles were burned and 74 FAPLA traitors and 2 Cuban mercenaries killed. The following were captured: 98 weapons, including 4 82-mm mortars, 7 RPG-7's, and 1 14.5-mm weapon, 246,788 rounds of assorted ammunition, and 467,896 kwanzas in currency. First Lieutenant (Roque Narcisio) was captured. On 4 October 1983 our forces attacked the enemy garrison at the bridge over the Pombuige River along the Quibala-Cariango road. The bridge was destroyed, 57 FAPLA traitors were killed, and 61 automatic weapons were captured. A total of 32 members of the ODP were mobilized, after which they joined our forces of their own free will. On 4 October 1983 FALA attacked an enemy force coming from Quibala near the Nhia River. The action resulted in the death of 43 FAPLA traitors and the capture of 51 assorted weapons and 3 field radios. Four vehicles were destroyed.

In Huila Province on 5 October 1983 one Ural vehicle was attacked along the Caluquembe-Caconda road. A total of 13 FAPLA traitors were killed, and the vehicle was destroyed. In Cuando Cubango Province on 6 October 1983 UNITA forces attacked the FAPLA 47th Battalion between (Jambaqueio) and (Pinde). A total of 52 FAPLA traitors were confirmed dead, and the remaining force fled in disarray. A total of 66 assorted weapons were captured, including 8 bags of medicine, 3 two-way radios, and important operational documents.

During this period UNITA forces suffered 11 dead and 21 wounded. The fatherland is not negotiable. The fatherland should be defended. Against capitulation, Monteiro is our model. Kafundanga is an example to follow.

The struggle triumphs and only united around Comrade President Dr Savimbi will we win.

Giraul River Bridge Rebuilt With Soviet Aid

MB291322 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
0500 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Text] The bridge over Giraul River in Namibe Province, which had been destroyed by Pretoria Army commandos, was reinaugurated the day before yesterday after 10 months of reconstruction. This important railway link for the distribution of products, particularly iron from the Cassinga mines and supplies for the Namibe residents, was rebuilt by 35 Angolan workers and 10 Soviet construction experts. These workers and experts were hailed for their devotion to work which enabled them to carry out the undertaking which the Pretoria rulers thought impossible.

In speeches made on the occasion by Construction Minister Jorge Flora, Soviet Ambassador to Angola Vadim Loginov, and Provincial Commissioner of Namibe (Rafel Capelinha Cambalanga), the undertaking was hailed as a great victory for the Angolan people over imperialist forces represented by the racist Pretoria regime in this part of the continent. The speeches also stressed the ties of friendship and cooperation between the people of Angola and the Soviet people, who played a great role in the reconstruction of the bridge destroyed by commandos in the service of major international monopolies.

Cabinda Border Troops Hold 407 for Smuggling

MB011758 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
0500 GMT 1 Nov 83

[Text] The Angolan Border Troops [TGFA] seized goods valued at 1,554,852 kwanzas in Cabinda Province during the third quarter of this year. This was reported to ANGOP the day before yesterday by the TGFA commander in the province, (Nanito Naval). The seized goods have already been shown in the main market of the provincial capital of Cabinda. They include large quantities of school equipment valued at 365,920 kwanzas. According to the TGFA commander in Cabinda, during the third quarter there was an increase in smuggling in the province, which led to the detention by the TGFA of 407 individuals engaged in smuggling. (Nanito Naval) said in conclusion that the TGFA actions have been very successful owing to the great support from (?military) and government (?authorities) of Cabinda Province.

BOTSWANA

President Masire To Visit PRC, Attend Delhi Meeting

MB021424 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 1125 GMT 2 Nov 83

[Excerpt] The president, Dr Quett Masire, is to pay an official visit to the PRC at the invitation of the Chinese Government 14-21 November. President Masire will be accompanied by the first lady, Mrs Masire, and senior government officials. He will leave Gaborone for Beijing on Saturday, 12 November. From Beijing, Dr Masire will attend the Commonwealth heads of government meeting in New Delhi, India, 23-30 November. This will be Dr Masire's second visit to China. He visited the country in 1980 as Botswana's vice president but had to cut his visit short due to the illness of the late President Sir Seretse Khama. Sir Seretse died in July 1980 shortly after Dr Masire had returned to Botswana.

MADAGASCAR

AKFM Congress Opens With Address by President

MB290752 Antananarivo Domestic Service in French 1030 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Text] The 10th Congress of the Congress Party for Malagasy Independence-Democratic Committee for the Malagasy Socialist Revolution [AKFM-KDRSM] opened in Antananarivo this morning. The official opening was presided over by Mr Andriamanjato Richard, national AKFM-KDRSM party chairman and was attended by the president of the National Assembly, Mr Lucien Andrianarahinjaka and many members of the Supreme Council of the Revolution and government, as well as by many foreign representatives working in Madagascar. Guests from 20 countries attended the opening session, in addition to representatives of the National Front for the Defense of the Malagasy Socialist Revolution [FNDR] and 1,000 delegates of2,053 sections of the party.

In his opening address the national AKFM-KDRSM party chairman, Mr Andriamanjato Richard, reviewed the history of the party and its relations with all the progressive organizations of the world. During its 25 years of existence, he said, AKFM-KDRSM, has contributed toward the liberation of peace- and justice-loving peoples. After the address, the congress heard the message from the president of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar, Mr Didier Ratsiraka, who is also FNDR chairman. In his message, the president of the Republic hailed the 25 years of struggle waged by the AKFM-KDRSM, an anticolonial and anti-imperialist struggle, and praised the Malagasy people's current role in the socialist revolution. After the reading of this message, the representatives of the different parties belonging to the FNDR expressed wishes of success to the AFKM-KDRSM revolutionary party. This morning's opening session wound up with the singing of the Internationale. The congress is expected to end 30 October.

Resolutions Presented

MB311703 Antananarivo Domestic Service in French 1030 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] The resolutions of the 10th congress of the Congress Party for Malagasy Independence-Democratic Committee for the Malagasy Socialist Revolution [AKFM-KDRSM] were presented this morning. The resolutions regarding the party were presented by the party secretary general, (Andre Rousovala). The resolutions on domestic policy were presented by the chairman, Andriamanjato Richard, and the resolutions on foreign policy were read by the party deputy secretary general, [name indistinct]. We also note the arrival of other invited guests to the congress this morning, including the delegates from the Frelimo Party Central Committee in Mozambique and the Afro-Asian Peoples Solidarity Organization. The congress is expected to close this afternoon. The public is invited to attend the AKFM-DKRSM meeting to be held tomorrow at 1500 in the capital.

MOZAMBIQUE

Machel Sends Condolences Message to Andropov

MB031437 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0430 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] Samora Machel, the president of the Frelimo Party and of the People's Republic of Mozambique, has sent a message to Yuriy Andropov, the general secretary of the CPSU and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium on the death of Sharaf Rashidov, an eminent distinguished official of the USSR and outstanding figure of the international communist movement. It was with deep sorrow and immense grief that we learned of the death of Comrade Sharaf Rashidovich Rashidov, an eminent official of the USSR and outstanding figure of the international communist movement, said President Samora Machel in his message. Elsewhere in the message, Field Marshal Samora Machel said that Comrade Sharaf Rashidovich Rashidov, candidate member of the Politiburo of the CPSU Central Committee, first secretary of the Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee, and member of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, has demonstrated, from his youth to the last hours of his life, that he was a consistent communist, a devoted fighter, and an unselfish defender of the noble ideals of happiness and peace among mankind.

Field Marshal Samora Machel also said in his message that the internationalist militancy of Comrade Sharaf Rashidovich was well known by the Mozambique people and the peoples all over the world. His action was decisive both as a writer and as the leader of the Soviet Committee for Solidarity With the Peoples of Asia and Africa so that the friendship between the Soviet people and other peoples of the world would be strengthened and become permanent. With the loss of Sharaf Rashidovich Rashidov, the Mozambique people and the militants of the Felimo Party have lost a true friend and comrade who furthered the friendship between the Mozambique and Soviet peoples. He brought the already solid cooperation between our two peoples, parties, and states to a higher level, the message also said. The president of Frelimo Party and of the People's Republic of Mozambique also said that the memory of this outstanding

Soviet leader would forever be recorded in the hearts of Mozambique workers as a symbol of fraternal friendship between our two peoples.

Machel Holds Talks With Mugabe in Maputo 2 Nov
MB031429 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] President Samora Machel and Zimbabwean Prime Minister Robert Mugabe spent 6 hours together in Maputo yesterday discussing southern Africa and recent visits to Europe and North America. Prime Minister Mugabe arrived in Mozambique yesterday for a surprise visit, which President Samora later said was too short for the various topics they needed to discuss. President Samora told reporters later that the southern African situation was the dominant topic and that they also discussed bilateral, economic, and military cooperation. The president said they exchanged points of view on South African attacks on both countries and spoke at length about economic and military sabotage by the Pretoria regime.

In October President Samora spent 3 weeks visiting several European countries and held talks with French President Francois Mitterrand and with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher. During the same period Prime Minister Mugabe visited the United States and Canada for talks with President Ronald Reagan and Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau. The discussions yesterday were the first opportunity the two southern African leaders have had to discuss these visits. During the talks Prime Minister Mugabe was accompanied by Foreign Minister Witness Mangwende and the minister of state for security, Emmerson Manangagwa. President Samora was joined by Foreign Minister Joaquim Chissano and the minister in the presidency for economic affairs, Jacinto Veloso. Prime Minister Mugabe and his delegation returned to Harare last night.

PANA Reports Further Details
AB031344 Dakar PANA in English 1315 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] Maputo, 3 Nov (AIM/PANA) — The situation Africa was the main topic of talks between Mozambican President Samora Machel and Prime Minister Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe at a six-hour meeting in Maputo yesterday. Speaking to the Maputo daily *NOTICIAS*, President Samora said the situation in southern Africa was the dominant theme of the talks, which also covered bilateral relations and the results of recent foreign visits made by the two leaders.

"We talked about bilateral cooperation," the president told *NOTICIAS*, "especially in the economic and military fields. We spoke at length about the joint defence of our countries and about the development of our economic relations."

President Samora was accompanied at the talks by his foreign minister, Joaquim Chissano, and by the minister in the presidency for economic affairs, Jacinto Velosos. Prime Minister Mugabe's delegation included Foreign Minister Witness Magwende and the minister of state in the prime minister's office responsible for security, Emerson Munangagwa.

Visits made in September by the Zimbabwean prime minister to Ireland, the United States, Canada and the United Nations Headquarters, and by President Samora to Belgium, Holland, Portugal, France, Britain and the European Economic Community Headquarters in Brussels were discussed. This is the first meeting between the two statesmen since the visits, and Foreign Minister Chissano said it was natural that they should meet in order to evaluate the results of the visits.

President Samora and Prime Minister Mugabe also exchanged views on attacks against their two countries by South Africa. "We looked at the danger that apartheid represents for southern Africa," the president said. "We spoke at length about the economic and military sabotage that the racist regime is carrying out against our countries."

According to *NOTICAS*, the two leaders, along with Jacinto Velosos and Emerson Munangagwa, had almost two hours of closed-door discussions. The Zimbabwean prime minister, who arrived in Maputo yesterday morning, returned to Harare last night on a special flight of Air Zimbabwe.

Regional Media Directors Meeting Opens in Maputo
MB300648 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Text] Media directors of the southern African frontline states began a meeting in Maputo today to work out concrete ways of implementing guidelines and principles which were agreed on by information ministers at Kadoma in Zimbabwe last July. The Kadoma declaration adopted by the ministers called for a joint effort to promote cooperation among the frontline states in the field of information and communication.

Opening today's meeting, Mozambican Information Minister Jose Luis Cabaco said the Kadoma agreement took on a special importance in the light of the struggle being waged by the peoples of the region. He said the South African regime used powerful means of mass communication at its disposal as a tool for disinformation about destabilization of the six frontline states. Mr Cabaco said the six countries must cooperate to provide correct, true, and fresh information about the reality and the struggle in this part of Africa. The minister added that this would hit the enemy hard because truth was a weapon beyond their reach. This weapon, he went on, was part of the moral strength of the alternative civilization represented by the frontline states in the face of racist barbarity. In order to ensure that the truth about the region is broadcast more strongly, Mr Cabaco said the delegates to the present meeting should propose concrete steps for coordination at the level of news agencies, radio, television, the press, and cinema. He proposed that they define immediate action which could be carried out within current budget and a second action program for 12 months beginning next April. This second program will be presented to the next meeting of information ministers scheduled to be held in Lusaka. The six frontline states are Angola, Botswana, Mozambique, Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. Also invited to the present meeting were Nigeria, the African National Congress of South Africa, and SWAPO of Namibia. The meeting is due to end next Wednesday.

Cooperation Urged

MB311928 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Text] The participants in the first meeting of media directors of the frontline states today discussed cooperation among news agencies of the frontline states, including PANA and the pool of the nonaligned countries. The meeting reiterated the importance of PANA as a continental news agency and a step toward the implementation of a new international information order. It hailed the fact that PANA's regional office in Lusaka has been transmitting on a regular basis.

The participants agreed that direct links among the frontline states' news agencies are increasingly important. They decided that the news agencies must continue and strengthen the daily flow of news among themselves. The participants made a number of immediate proposals including the creation of sports desks in the news agencies, the increased exchange of photographs, and the holding of seminars for journalists of frontline states.

Journalists Warned

MB030630 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 2 Nov 83

[Text] Journalists have been warned that if they accompany the South African Army and its UNITA puppets into Angolan territory they will be considered enemies of the frontline states. In a resolution passed at the end of the meeting in Maputo of frontline media directors, it was noted that Pretoria was planning to take journalists into the part of southern Angola occupied by South African troops.

Such tours, the resolution says, are part of South Africa's disinformation offensive against the frontline states and are intended to boost the international image of the UNITA bandits. The media directors have warned all journalists who intend to be ferried into Angola by the South African Armed Forces that they will be violating the sovereignty of Angola and will, therefore, be regarded as enemies of the frontline states.

The meeting also condemned the recent bomb attack on the ANC's information office in Maputo by agents infiltrated by South Africa. The resolution criticized the first account of the operation circulated by Pretoria, which claimed that a task force had carried out the attack. This lie was aimed at discrediting the defensive capacity of the frontline states and fostering an image of South Africa as all-powerful, the meeting said.

The media directors repeated their call for events in the frontline states to be covered by journalists based in the frontline states rather than in South Africa. Earlier in the week the meeting agreed on short-and-long-term plans for increasing cooperation in the field of information.

Meeting Ends

MB021344 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 2 Nov 83

[Text] The proceedings of the meeting of media directors of frontline states which begun in Maputo on 29 October 1983 ended yesterday. Media directors were present from the six frontline states. Representatives of the ANC liberation movement of South Africa and SWAPO of Namibia were also present. The broad agenda, covering cooperation between news agencies and in the fields of radio, press, cinema, and television, as well as cadre training, relations with the PAN-AFRICAN NEWS AGENCY, and the news agencies pool of nonaligned countries, has furthered the decisions of the Kadoma meeting in Zimbabwe. In general terms, the objectives drawn up at Kadoma meeting were achieved during the Maputo working sessions, during which a number of documents were drafted. Important motions were also approved, as well as a resolution to be submitted to the UNESCO general conference following its recommendation of support for the frontline states. Also during this meeting the participants agreed that there was an increasing need for direct links between the frontline states' news agencies and decided that the agencies must maintain and intensify the daily exchange of news between them.

Regional Trade, Transportation Meeting Held

MB281010 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 27 Oct 83

[Text] The first meeting of the trade and transportation subcommissions of the five African Portuguese-speaking countries began in the capital of the People's Republic of Mozambique this morning. Angola, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, and Sao Tome and Principe will exchange information on the structure and flow of trade among themselves and outline a program for the collection and circulation of information in the fields of trade and transportation. In the field of transportation, the five countries will assess the level of cooperation and also outline the prospects for increasing cooperation in maritime transport, ports, land transport, and civil aviation.

Speaking at the official opening session of the meeting of the five African Portuguese-speaking countries, Jacinto Veloso, Mozambique minister in the presidency for economic affairs, stressed that both in the field of trade and transportation there are capacities, potential, and technical know-how which need to be assessed to promote bilateral cooperation and development within each country. The Maputo meetings follow the decisions adopted at the third summit of the five heads of state and the meeting of the ministerial commission which was held in the city of Mindelo, Cape Verde, July-August of this year. The working sessions of the trade and transportation subcommissions are regarded as an important step in coordination between the two sectors, as well as in strengthening cooperation and promoting economic development.

Cooperation Agreements Signed

MB300900 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Text] Cape Verde Minister of Transport Herculano Vieira left Maputo yesterday for his country after attending the meeting of the five Portuguese-speaking African countries. The meeting ended yesterday with the signing of cooperation agreements in the commerce and transportation fields. Speaking at the closing session, Jacinto Veloso, minister to the presidency for economic affairs, said that very positive conclusions were reached at the meeting. He added that the meeting between Angola, Cape Verde, Guinea Bissau, Mozambique, and Sao Tome and Principe on the subject of commerce and transportation paved the way for a successful summit of the heads of state of these countries, which will be held next December in Bissau.

SOUTH AFRICA

2 Nov Referendum Voting Results Reported

MB030722 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Excerpts] A percentage poll of between 62 and 64 percent has been recorded in yesterday's referendum on the new constitution. This means that about 1,750,000 voters out of a possible 2,713,000 went to the polls. The chief referendum officer, Mr (Geric van Zyl), in an interview with the South African Broadcasting Corporation [SABC] after the closing of the polling stations, gave the estimated percentage poll for the various referendum areas. He said he expected a 65 percent poll in the Johannesburg area; 75 percent in the Bloemfontein area; 65 percent in the Pietermaritzburg area; 62 percent in the Kroonstad area; 65 percent in East London; 52 percent in Roodepoort; 65 percent in Durban; 73 percent in George; 75 percent in Germiston; 75 percent at Beaufort West; 60 percent at Pietersburg; 55 percent in Kimberley; 50 percent in Port Elizabeth; and 70 percent in Pretoria. Our referendum desk reports this means that in Germiston about 184,000 people voted; in Pietersburg 61,000; in Pretoria 305,000; in Roodepoort 132,000; in Johannesburg 261,000; Bloemfontein 75,000; Kroonstad 70,000; Beaufort West 29,000; George 37,000; Cape Town 233,000; Kimberley 38,000; East London 61,000; Port Elizabeth 59,000; Durban 145,000; and Pietermaritzburg 60,000. Mr (Van Zyl) pointed out that these figures were merely estimates.

On the way voting had gone, he said there had been a noticeable increase in polling after business hours. This had been particularly obvious in Germiston, where there had been a late rush to the polls. He said the Department of Internal Affairs had been forced to rush additional staff members and officials to Germiston, and that a large number of extra ballot papers had also been sent to the referendum area. Our Pretoria office reports that the first ballot boxes were delivered to the counting office in the Pretoria City Hall last night. The referendum officer for the Pretoria area, Mr (Schultemier), who was on duty during the night to receive the ballot boxes from the various areas, says counting began at about 0500. Ballot boxes from Nelspruit, Ermelo, and Barberton, which were expected later this morning, had arrived at 0530. The Pretoria result will be known first from about 0930. The Johannesburg and Roodepoort results are expected from 1000.

Counting at Pietersburg started a short while ago, and the result is expected between 1000 and 1200. It was not possible to start counting earlier in the northern Transvaal because of the large area covered by the five electoral districts. In Pietermaritzburg, counting will start at 0800. The regional representative of the Department of Internal Affairs in the city, Mr (Barnard), says all the ballot boxes which were transported by road to Pietermaritzburg arrived before 0600 this morning. He said the votes would first be balanced out before counting began. He could not say when the result was expected.

In Durban, counting started shortly after 0500. In Bloemfontein, counting started an hour ago, and the result for the referendum region is expected to be available at about 1000 this morning. Counting in Kimberley has also started, and the result is expected at midday. At Kroonstad, counting started 2 hours ago, and the result is expected at 0930. In the Cape Town area, counting started at 0500 in the Parrow Civic Center. Ballot boxes being transported from Walvis Bay and Namaqualand in military aircraft are expected to arrive at 0830. At this stage it's not possible to say when the result is expected, but earlier estimates were that it would be between 1000 and 1200. At Beaufort West, counting officials will gather at 0800, but a late start is possible as the ballot boxes from Presco are expected to arrive late. Ballot boxes have had to be gathered up from up to 500 km from the town. It's expected, however, that the result will be announced shortly before noon. Counting in the George referendum area also started at 0600. Agents were optimistic this morning that the percentage poll could be higher than 80. A result is expected between 0900 and 1000.

The chief referendum officer said it was possible that delays could occur in the northwestern Cape because two polling bureaus had been cut off from the outside world by heavy rains. Mr (van Zyl) said that if it proved necessary, the Air Force would be asked to transport these ballot boxes to the counting centers. He still believed that the final result would, nonetheless, be available by midday. A large crowd is expected to gather at the ampitheater at the Union Buildings in Pretoria to await the announcement of the referendum results later this morning. The first result is expected shortly after 0900, with the final result at about midday. The prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, will address a news conference of foreign and local journalists after the final result in the referendum has become known.

Port Elizabeth, Kroonstad

MB030758 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0748 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] Johannesburg, Nov 3, SAPA — An overwhelming "yes" vote in yesterday's referendum on the new constitution was registered in the Port Elizabeth referendum area, it was announced today. Votes in favour of the new constitution were more than double those against. Out of a total of 86,770 votes cast, 60,661 were "yes" votes and 25,901 against the constitution. There were 208 spoilt papers.

There are an estimated 118,558 voters in the Port Elizabeth referendum area but, because of the new cross-constituency method of polling, all the ballots cast in that area need not have been made by voters of the region. The Port Elizabeth referendum area comprises the constituencies of Algoa, Humansdorp, Newtonpark, Port Elizabeth, Port Elizabeth Central, Sondagsrivier, Uitenhage and Walmer. All these are National Party [NP] constituencies, with the exception of Port Elizabeth Central and Walmer, where the Progressive Federal Party [PFP] hold the parliamentary majority.

The second "yes" majority vote in the referendum was recorded early today in the Kroonstad area, where more than 60 percent of votes cast were in favour of the new dispensation. Out of a total of 87,996 votes cast in the National Party-dominated Free State area, 55,486 were "yes" ballots, while 32,321 "no" votes were cast. There were 189 spoilt papers.

The percentage of "yes" votes in relation to total votes cast was 63.06. The Kroonstad referendum area comprises the National Party parliamentary constituencies of Bethlehem, Heilbron, Kroonstad, Parys, Sasolburg, Virginia and Welkom. However, because of the cross-constituency method of polling, votes cast in the area do not necessarily reflect the voting trends in these constituencies. The estimated total number of voters in the Kroonstad referendum area is 112,590.

Durban became the third area to register on overwhelming "yes" victory this morning. After big "yes" results in Port Elizabeth and Kroonstad, the Durban "yes" was almost two-thirds of the total poll in that area. Out of 168,975 votes cast, 123,783 were in favour of the constitution and 44,442 against it. There were 750 spoilt papers. The area comprises the parliamentary constituencies of Amanzimtoti (NRP) [New Republic Party], Berea (PFP), Durban North (NRP), Durban Point (NRP), Durban Central (PFP), Greytown (PFP), Pinetown (PFP), Port Natal (NP), South Coast (NRP), Umbilo (NRP), Umfolozi (NP), Umhlanga (NRP), Umhlatuzana (NP) and Umlazi (NP).

Durban, Germiston

MB030840 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0829 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] Johannesburg, Nov 3, SAPA — A "yes" vote of nearly 70 percent has emerged from the first four results to be announced today in the referendum on the constitution. With results in from Port Elizabeth, Kroonstad, Durban and Germiston, the percentage of "yes" votes in relation to the total vote cast was 68.19 percent. "No" votes comprised 31.42 percent of the total poll in these areas, while spoilt papers amounted to 0.39 percent. Out of 518,482 votes cast so far, 353,530 were "yes" ballots and 162,905 "no." There have been 2,047 spoilt papers. Germiston referendum:

yes — 113,600

no — 60,241

spoilt papers — 900

total votes cast — 174,741

The highest percentage of "yes" votes was recorded in the NRP [New Republic Party]-dominated Durban referendum area, where 73.26 percent of ballots cast were in favour of the new constitution. Port Elizabeth was next, with 69.91 percent of votes cast for the government's new policy.

Roodepoort, George

MB030916 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0856 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] Johannesburg, Nov 3, SAPA — The "yes" majority dropped from an early 68.19 percent to 65.54 percent of total votes cast after results from six of the referendum areas were announced today. Votes against the referendum on the new constitution were 34.04 percent of total votes cast after the results of votin in the Port Elizabeth, Kroonstad, Durban, Germiston, Roodepoort, and George referendum areas were announced. Out of 747,759 votes cast, 490,093 were "yes" votes and 254,569 "no." Spoilt papers amounted to 3,097 or 0.4 percent of total votes. Roodepoort referendum area:

yes — 105,307

no — 80,238

spoilt papers — 909

total votes cast — 186,454

The George area, which includes the parliamentary constituency of the prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, registered more than a two-thirds "yes" majority. Just under 73 percent of the 42,823 votes cast were in favour of the new constitution. A total of 31,256 "yes" and 11,426 "no" votes were recorded, with 141 spoilt papers. Apart from Mr Botha's George constituency, the area includes the National Party seats of Mossel Bay, Oudtshoorn and Swellendam. There are 50,733 parliamentary voters in the area, although ballots cast need not necessarily have been made exclusively by those registered in the area.

'No' Vote in Pietersburg

MB030926 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0918 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] Johannesburg, Nov 3, SAPA — The Conservative Party [CP] stronghold of Pietersburg registered the first "no" vote in the referendum on the constitution today. In a high poll reflecting the intensity of campaigning by both the CP and the National Party [NP], the "no" response amounted to 52.39 percent of the total vote. Out of 78,406 registered parliamentary voters, 66,477 people cast their ballots, for a percentage poll of about 85 percent. On these, 34,827 were against the new constitution and 31,403 were in favour of it. There were 247 spoilt papers.

The area includes the Waterberg constituency of the CP leader, Dr Andries Treurnicht, as well as the Soutpansberg constituency, retaken by a slender margin by the minister of manpower, Mr Fanie Botha, in a byelection earlier this year. Other constituencies in the area are Lydenburg and Potgietersrus (NP) and Pietersburg (CP).

The Pietermaritzburg area registered the seventh "yes" majority in the referendum on the constitution, with votes in favour of the new constitution more than double those cast against. The area, which includes large Progressive Federal Party [PFP] and National Party strongholds, recorded a 50,519 "yes" vote against 20,060 "no." Out of a total vote of 70,945, there were 366 spoilt papers. The PFP hold two parliamentary seats in Pietermaritzburg but the area also includes the NP seats of Klipriver, Newcastle and Vryheid, as well as the New Republic Party's Mooiriver constituency.

The eighth "yes" vote out of nine results announced in the referendum so far came from Bloemfontein today, where those in favour of the new constitution were nearly double those against. Out of 79,310 votes cast, 52,019 were "yes" ballots, 26,960 "no" and there were 331 spoilt papers. The area is dominated by the National Party in parliament.

'Yes' Vote in 13 Areas

MB031020 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1158 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] Johannesbvurg, Nov 3, SAPA — Cape Town became the 12th area to record a strong "yes" vote as the result of the referendum on the new constitution were announced today. At total of 221,511 votes cast were in favour of the new dispensation, while 71,456 were against. There were 1,229 spoilt papers out of a total vote of 294,196. Like Johannesburg, the Cape Town referendum area is split between Progressive Federal Party seats in the city and National Party urban and rural constituencies, including Paarl, Walvis Bay, Maitland, Caledon and Bellville. At 75 percent of the total votes cast, Cape Town has so far registered the second highest "yes" vote after East London, on 77.62 percent. With results of polling in the Beaufort West and Pretoria referendum areas outstanding, the "yes" vote majority was 67.79 percent. "No" votes comprised 31.64 percent of total votes cast.

[Johannesburg SAPA in English at 1003 GMT on 3 November adds: "With only one result still to be announced, 13 out of 14 referendum areas have voted strongly in favour of the new constitution. In the National Party-dominated area of Beaufort West, an overwhelming 22,502 out of 30,328 votes cast were "yes" ballots. The 'no' vote amounted to 7,733, while there were 93 spoilt papers."

Prime Minister Holds Press Conference on Referendum

MB031626 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1045 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Press conference conducted by Prime Minister P.W. Botha at the Union Building in Pretoria; many participants only partially identified — live]

[Text] [Pretorius] Prime Minister, I would like to ask you through (Dr Roodt) how you interpret the referendum result and what you think its influence will be on South Africa's future?

[Botha] My reply would be that we will need time to consider all aspects of the result. But at this stage I would say it is a decisive majority in favor of national unity in an attempt to create peace, prosperity, and security for South Africa. It is such an overwhelming result that I think it will have a big influence on the country as a whole, but it will also have a big influence internationally. As far as I am concerned, the government now feels strengthened in cooperation with other political parties, such as the New Republic Party [NRP], who supported us on this question, to go forward with proper reform, evolutionary reform, for South Africa.

[Du Plessis — in Afrikaans] Mr Prime Minister, was the result of the referendum a surprise to you?

[Botha — in Afrikaans] I would say that the extent of the result was a surprise. We generally believed that we would win. You do not undertake something if you do not believe you are going to win; but the result surpassed our greatest expectations. May I draw your attention to the fact that in only one referendum area we had a small minority, and it is a smaller majority against us as compared with the byelection there recently. In 14 referendum areas we massed unprecedented majorities, and, furthermore, the fact is that the total yes votes is more than half of the potential voting strength of South Africa. In other words, if everyone had voted then we should still have had a majority.

[Dieter Grosser of German television] Mr Prime Minister, would you comment on the fear that this new constitution brings closer together moderate and radical black leaders from the different camps in their opposition against the government?

[Botha] I have stated right through the referendum campaign that this new dispensation, this new constitution, does not limit the constitutional development of all the minority groups in South Africa, and that includes all of them. In other words, we have now a vote in favor of evolutionary reform, and it also means that we will take further steps as to evolutionary reform (?for) those peoples who need a different constitutional development in South Africa.

[*NEUE ZUERCHER ZEITUNG* correspondent] Mr Prime Minister, how do you feel about a referendum for Indians and Coloreds, as you promised recently?

[Botha] I have said that it all depends on the leaders of the Colored people and the leaders of the Indian people whether they want a referendum, whether they want a general election. We will be led by their advice, and I hope that very soon we shall have further talks with them, and after these talks a decision will have to be taken in what form their opinion will be tested.

[*DIE VADERLAND* correspondent — in Afrikaans] Prime Minister, it is clear from the result that a great number of your former opponents must have voted for you. Do you foresee a new rearrangement in white politics?

[Botha — in Afrikaans] I foresee a new spirit of South Africanism in which all South Africans will participate in a responsible, constitutional manner in the building of this country's constitutional development.

[Briam Potinger of *THE SUNDAY TIMES*] Mr Prime Minister, in view of the extent of your victory, is there any possibility of an early general election.

[Botha] No. Why? [laughter]

[SABC correspondent — in Afrikaans] Prime Minister, in light of what you had just said, in light of the referendum results, how do you see the future of Dr Van Zyl Slabbert and his party, the Progressive Federal Party [PFP], on the one hand, and Dr Treurnicht and the Conservative Party [CP] on the other? [Botha — in Afrikaans] You know, I have not yet thought about Dr Van Zyl Slabbert's future, and I have also not thought about the future of the other losers. I am thinking about South Africa's future.

[Peter Sullivan of *THE STAR*] Mr Prime Minister, could I ask when you expect the new constitution to actually come into effect?

[Botha] It all depends now to what extent we can come to definite conclusions as far as the Colored and Indian communities are concerned, and I hope that within the next 6 months we will proceed with finalizing our proposals. In practice it might take a month longer or shorter. I do not know, but I would say the second half of next year if possible.

[Question indistinct]

[Botha] You know, I have been spelling out the reform objectives right through the referendum campaign.

[Question indistinct]

[Botha] The group areas act has been referred to a judicial commission for inquiry, and we have stated that we will, while retaining the principle of own communities governing themselves on a third-tier government level with their own schools, their own social amenities — we are also endeavoring to improve that act wherever possible, and we are awaiting the report of the commission that has been appointed to inquire into the whole matter. I expect it very soon.

[*DIE WELD* correspondent] Mr Prime Minister, you mentioned in your speech outside right now that you would (?seek) cooperation among the various parties. Does it mean you are stretching out your hand toward, let us say, Dr Van Zyl Slabbert and the PFP and Dr Treurnicht from the CP and are prepared to work together with them right now in the new constitution?

[Botha] On more than one ocassion in the past I stated categorically that I am not in favor of a spirit of negativism in the political life of South Africa, and I invited all parties in Parliament and outside Parliament to stop negativism and in a positive spirit to cooperate wherever possible. The latest example we have is the fact that the NRP, as a party, does not see eye to eye on every matter of policy with the government party, but as South Africans we found it possible to cooperate with each other in a spirit of positive approach to the real problems of our country; and in that sense I invite every other South African who really wishes to see genuine, stable, evolutionary progress in this country to cooperate as far as possible. I welcome it.

[Julie Fredericks of U.S. National Public Radio] Are you going to make moves to call up the Coloreds and Indians into the military service, and when would this be?

[Botha] The question of national service for Coloreds and Indians is a matter that is not being dealt with under the constitution, the new dispensation. That is a matter that is to be dealt with under the Defense Act. Up till now we did not bring this matter forward because we did not have the accommodation, we did not have the financial capability, and we had to be satisfied with the voluntary service they have rendered; and they came forward in large numbers to serve in the Defense Force of the country and in the police force. For that we are thankful. But when they have the vote, gradually we will extend their service, too, naturally, as we did with the whites. We started with the whites on a voluntary basis. Later on we extended that basis to a further number of people until we eventually succeeded in bringing national service. I believe we will have to follow the same road with these two groups.

[Robinson — in Afrikaans] Prime Minister, you have already referred to the fact that there will not be an early general election. But there is one technical point that needs clarification, and that is that the constitution makes provision for a 5-year term for Parliament, as such, and this includes three chambers. Now ultimately, if this dispensation comes into effect, there will have to be elections for the other two groups to get them into Parliament, and by that time there would be, let us say, 2 years left for Parliament. How will that situation be handled?

[Botha — in Afrikaans] That will be looked into in the near future. The government has time until the end of 1986 before it will conduct an election for the white Parliament. In other words, we have time from now until 1986, 3 years, and in that time we can plan. I do not cross a bridge until I have come to it.

[Barell of *GOLDEN CITY PRESS*] Mr Botha, could you please tell us: Will your government tolerate opposition from black radical groups such as the United Democratic Front and National Forum now that you have received this mandate?

[Botha] The government is opposed to all radicalism. I have stated that on more than one occassion. But we are prepared to discuss, confer, and cooperate with all reasonable leaders of the various population groups in South Africa, not only the Coloreds and the Indians, but also the black leaders who are prepared, as they were in the past, to cooperate with us. I am against all forms of radicalism, but I am in favor of all forms of resonable well-balanced conversation and deliberation in a fair and proper well-balanced way.

[Chris Gibbons of American Broadcasting Corporation] Mr Prime Minister, do you expect the West to view South Africa more favorably as a result of today's yes vote?

[Botha] Up till now we have always told the South African electorate that we cannot in South Africa formulate policies and carry out policies to satisfy the international world. They cannot decide for us our future. We know that we have many friends in the international world, in other countries, who are really interested in a stable, prospering South Africa; and I believe that we will be able to strengthen their attitude on South Africa to a great extent. But, if you mean by your question that we must satisfy the radical demands made against South Africa by influences like the United Nations, I am telling you straightforward, we cannot satisfy those demands.

[Question indistinct]

[Botha] I think it will contribute to a better understanding. I cannot expect the United States to formulate its policies and to decide its future policies to suit us, just as I do not want to formulate our policies to suit them. But if we can, by way of serving common interests, contribute to better understanding and relations, I am all for it, and I hope this will be in the interests of both of our countries.

[Roland Heper of (?*NEUE ZUERCHER ZEITUNG*)] Mr Prime Minister, after the referendum do you consider Gatsha Buthelezi's Inkatha as a possible threat?

[Botha] I do not think Gatsha Buthelezi's Inkatha is a possible threat. His Inkatha is his own type of Broederbond for the Zulu peoples, and as long as they deal with their relationships with us in a responsible way, I have no objections that he has his own cultural organizations. He is a product of policies made possible by this government. He achieved the head ministership as a result of his people's cooperation with us, and I cannot understand why he should deny other population groups to have the same results.

[Charlene Bell of the Durban *SUNDAY TRIBUNE*] The referendum has, in fact, endorsed apartheid. The white voters have now endorsed apartheid. Do you think that this now means that the West has been incorrect in the past in saying that the whites do not endorse apartheid, and how will this assist you in reforming apartheid, if the whites endorse it?

[Botha] It all depends what you mean with that word. You know this parrot cry that we have heard over decades now. Let me remind you of the fact that this terrible, so-called terrible, word that you are referring to now — it all depends what you mean by it. If it means oppression, if it means destroying the rights of people, I am not for it. But I have stated since I became prime minister that I am for a positive approach to the rights, and privileges, and traditions, and ideals of every population group in the subcontinent of southern Africa, and I have proved it. We have, through the past number of years, increased vast sums of money for better training and education of all population groups. We have improved housing conditions. We have improved the level of the standard of living economically, and we are busy improving the political rights of these groups. So I do not know what you mean with your word. If it means oppression, I reject it. If it means positive development, I accept it.

[Mike Hannah of Independent Radio News] Mr Prime Minister, if the Colored and Indian race groups reject your new constitution through their actions in either an election or a referendum, will you still continue to implement it?

[Botha] That is a hypothetical question. We must first test them. People also asked the question: If the white electorate rejects your proposal, what would happen? Well, now what happened? So I am not going to reply to hypothetical questions. I will go to the Colored people with an honest proposal. They have no political rights at present, no political rights on the first tier of government, no political rights on the second tier of government, no political rights on the third tier of government. I believe that most Colored people will be as responsible as the white people and will come forward and accept what is being offered to them to improve their position in their land of birth, and the same will happen with the Indians. So I am not now considering negative results. I am in a positive spirit at present as you can see.

[Question, unidentified] Now that the referendum is over and you have safely tucked away a very large yes vote, can you fianlly tell us the truth about the hidden agenda? Is there one?

[Botha] Will you kindly repeat your question?

[Same questioner] I say, now that you have safely tucked away a very strong yes vote, can you finally tell us once and for all about the much-talked-about hidden agenda? Is there one?

[Botha] The hidden agenda for what?

[Same questioner] For a constitutional reform.

[Botha] There is no hidden agenda. I have said so in Parliament, and I repeat it. It's a story created by people who do not want to read my programs as announced.

[George Roulet of Radio South Africa's French service] Any special message for Africa? Are you going to pursue a policy of cooperation with Africa, black Africa?

[Botha] Yes. In the first instance we have our black peoples, our immediate neighbors. Some of them have achieved independence, and we are cooperating with those independent states, the TBVC [Transkei, Bophuthatswana, Venda, and Ciskei] countries in various ways. We have established the Southern African Development Bank, the Small Businesses Development Corporation. We are cooperating with them on health services, in the fields of tourism. We are cooperating with them on telecommunications and agriculture and water conservation and many other fields. As to the national states which are self-governing states, we are following the same procedures, and we will have conferences and deliberations with all those responsible leaders whenever necessary in our common interests. As far as the rest of southern African states are concerned, I have on many occasions said that I believe we in southern Africa can achieve much by cooperation and not threatening each other. I made offers that we are prepared to sign nonaggression pacts with other African states and we are prepared to sign agreements with them not to allow our countries to be used as springboards against one another by terrorists, and I still make this offer. I am speaking from a position of strength to southern Africa, and I hope they will accept my good will and cooperate in their own interests with us.

[Sullivan] Mr Prime Minister, can you tell us when you expect the first report of the Cabinet committee on urban blacks?

[Botha] No. I cannot tell you, because we had to deal with this referendum, and, of course, the work of the Cabinet committee could not be completed during the last 2 months. We will now start having the necessary discussions with the leaders concerned, and I think, now that the referendum has been such a success, we will be able to spend more of our energy on the other problems that we are facing.

[Robinson — in Afrikaans] What is the program concerning local and provincial levels of government with regard to whites, Coloreds, and Indians?

[Botha — in Afrikaans] We have explicitly said that we want to first complete the first level of government and the third level of government. Then we will start to consult with the provinces. We have already begun consulting them, but I have also explicitly announced that we will not interfere in the existence of the provinces during their present tenure. We have begun negotiations, and we will continue with those negotiations. Various discussions have taken place even under my chairmanship, and I plan to continue.

Opposition Leaders Comment on Referendum Outcome

MB031730 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] The leader of the official opposition, Dr Frederick van Zyl Slabbert, said the prime minister could regard the yes vote in the referendum as a mandate for reform. He said that if the Asian and Colored communities supported the new constitution in their own referendums, his Progressive Federal Party should explore the opportunities for peaceful and evolutionary change in South Africa. The leader of the right-wing Conservative Party, Dr Andries Treurnicht, said his party regarded the referendum result as a mere battle in the total struggle of the people. He said it marked the beginning of the struggle to undo the new constitution.

Further Reaction

MB040714 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Excerpts] President Sebe of Ciskei said he wished to congratulate the prime minister as his friend on the outcome of the referendum. Speaking in a telephone interview from Israel, where he is at present on a visit, he said that Mr Botha should not hesitate to move forward. Ciskei, he said, would be behind him. The chairman of the South African Indian Council and leader of the Indian National People's Party, Mr Rajbansi, said he would now ask his party to give the constitution the fair trial it deserved. The chief minister of kwaZulu, Chief Gatsha Buthelezi, said at Ulundi that there was no doubt that the new constitution, if implemented, would be a recipe for racial confrontation in South Africa. Afrikaans- and English-speaking whites, he said, had united to produce a yes majority and he called on black leaders to unite in similar fashion in order to devise strategies. Chief Buthelezi said that blacks from now on would definitely use their consumer power to bring white South Africa to the negotiation table with the blacks, although such a strategy would entail hardships for the blacks. The chief minister of Qwa Qwa, Mr (Mopedi), said that the black man had little to rejoice at over the outcome of the referendum. There would be no peace in South Africa as long as blacks were excluded from the decisionmaking process.

SWAZILAND

Bhekimpi Commends Nation on Election Success

MB021845 Mbabane Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 2 Nov 83

[Text] The prime minister, Prince Bhekimpi, has highly commended the entire Swazi nation for displaying their unity and patpatriotism by turning up in great numbers during last week's general elections held at all the Tinkundla [constituency] centers in the country. Speaking this afternoon at a press conference at Government House in Mbabane, Prince Bhekimpi said the nation, by shunning the threats of those who opposed the elections by urging voters to boycott the elections, really showed love of their country. For such an act, he said, the nation deserves to be He also thanked the preservers of peace and stability during the elections, adding that in other countries elections are marred by violence and bloodshed. He particularly directed his sincere thanks to the Royal Swaziland Police Force and the Umbutfo Swaziland Defense Force for their role in maintaining peace for the good success of the elections. He pointed out that the number of voters has been the biggest since the first elections in 1964. He urged the nation to stick to the gospel that the late King Sobhuza II propagated, that when we are united we will always forge ahead as a nation. With the elections having been a great success, the prime minister expressed the hope that the opposition will soon come to an end. He strongly warned the dissidents to come forward and repent before they are rounded up and dealt with severely. He said those people who go about preaching a rebel gospel are known. He appealed to the Swazi nation to report such people.

Group Jailed for Trying To Disrupt Elections

MB030902 Mbabane THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND in English 3 Nov 83 p 1

[By *TIMES* correspondent]

[Excerpt] A number of people are being held for questioning in connection with the movements of a group of political activists. Revealing this yesterday, the prime minister, Prince Bhekimpi, said that police are searching for guns believed to be hidden in mountains and bushes throughout the country. Three Swazis among those in custody have already "squealed" and have given the names of several others who are to be rounded up soon, the prime minister said.

Information given to the authorities shows that there were hired hit men from foreign countries, but the police are said to be hard on their trail. The group of activists had been out to wreck the elections and cause chaos during the elections period, Prince Bhekimpi said.

ZIMBABWE

Mugabe Returns From Mozambique Visit 2 Nov

MB030938 Harare Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, returned home last night after a brief visit to Maputo during which he and [words indistinct]. The dignitaries also discussed bilateral relations, the situation in southern Africa in the context of the guilty regime's destabilization designs against frontline countries, as well as international questions. The minister of foreign affairs, Comrade Witness Mangwende, who accompanied the prime minister, also had separate talks with his counterpart, Comrade Joaquim Chissano.

Mugabe Discloses Reasons for Muzorewa Arrest

MB031904 Harare Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, said the leader of the United African National Council, Bishop Abel Muzorewa, has been held because the government has evidence he was involved in clandestine activities against the state. Comrade Mugabe said the bishop had not been playing a (?fair) political game, because he had been making up with people who are our opponents, despite the hand of reconciliation the government has extended to them. The prime minister made the remarks in Harare today in an interview with the UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL Television News. Comrade Mugabe said it was difficult to believe that the bishop, who had worked under the regime which was responsible for many atrocities and murders of many Zimbabwean refugees, should continue to work toward the destabilization of the country. However, he stressed that he would rather leave the matter to security officers investigating the bishop's case.

The bishop was arrested on Monday this week in an operation code-named Chinyavada [scorpion], which the minister of state security, Comrade Emmerson Munangagwa, said has been to check on subversive elements connected with South African bandits. The bishop's arrest came soon after a 6-week tour of Zionist Israel during which he suggested that Zimbabwe should reestablish diplomatic relations with the Jewish state.

ZANU-PF Supporters Applaud Muzorewa Arrest

MB031501 Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 3 Oct 83

[Text] More than 400 placard-waving supporters of ZANU-PF in Chinoi this morning held a peaceful demonstration praising the arrest of the UANC [United African National Council] leader, Bishop Abel Muzorewa, 2 days ago. The crowd, which was mainly composed of women and youths, carried placards which also denounced the unpatriotic stand of the leaders of the UANC, ZAPU, and ZANU-Sithole. Some of them read: [Few words in Shona], we in Chinoi are behind you, folks; and, South Africa must be free.

Addressing the demonstrators, the ZANU-PF provincial secretary for security, Comrade (Alexio Narara), said the hand of reconciliation has been extended for the past 3 years by the government, but it does not mean cowardice. If the minority parties ignore this kind gesture, they will have themselves to blame. There have been more demonstrations in Harare. The UANC provincial office in Chinoi was closed 2 months ago.

Further Support Demonstration

MB031050 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1039 GMT 3 Nov 83

[Text] Harare, Nov 3, SAPA — Hundreds of placard-carrying ZANU (PF) members, demonstrating their support for recent government measures including the arrest of the UANC [United African National Council] leader, Bishop Abel Muzorewa, and the sqautter removal campaign, marched to the prime minister's Milton Building offices this morning. It was not immediately clear whether the prime minster, Mr Robert Mugabe, was in his office, but only security officials stood outside the building while the demonstrators sang and shouted revolutionary songs and slogans in praise of the government.

Some of the demonstrators displayed placards demanding the summary execution of Bishop Muzorewa. "We demand Bishop Muzorewa must hang," said one. Another expressed support for the government action in removing squatters from illegal settlements.

The demonstration was planned and organised by the ZANU (PF) Women's League head, Mrs Joyce Choto.

UK Minister in Harare Comments on Cuban Withdrawal

MB021923 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1450 GMT 2 Nov 83

[Text] Harare, Nov 2, SAPA — It was "improper" for new conditions, such as the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola, to be introduced into the question of SWA/Namibia's independence, a British minister told newsmen in Harare today. Speaking at the airport after flying in from Angola, the British minister of state in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Mr Malcolm Rifkind, said there was a "general consensus" among the parties involved over the best way of moving towards SWA/Namibian independence.

Asked how the British Government viewed the American linkage of SWA/Namibia's independence with the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola, Mr Rifkind said any conditions introduced into the issue had to be in line with the United Nations Resolution 435, otherwise they would be improper. "We do not think it is proper to bring in any new conditions," said the minister, who has a special responsibility for Africa and who is accompanied by his wife, Edith, on a nine-day tour of Angola, Zimbabwe and South Africa.

Mr Rifkind described relations between Britain and Zimbabwe as "very good." "Britain and Zimbabwe are extremely good friends and have very good relations," said Mr Rifkind, who flew to Angola on Monday on the first leg of his familiarisation tour, during which he is also to discuss bilateral and regional problems with representatives of the host governments. "We respect very much the views of the Zimbabwe Government, as I am sure they do ours," he added.

Commenting on the recent invasion of Grenada by American and other forces, he said the British Government was anxious to see the issue quickly resolved and the situation normalised. "Our main anxiety at the present time is to see a speedy return to a normal situation with a democratic government installed."

Mr Rifkind, a former lecturer at the University of Zimbabwe, and his wife, who has lived in Zimbabwe, are due to leave Zimbabwe for South Africa on Saturday. Before leaving Zimbabwe, he is scheduled to meet several Zimbabwean Government ministers and possibly Prime Minister Mr Robert Mugabe today and tomorrow. On Friday, he will spend most of the day at Inyanga, where he is to visit two British-aided resettlement projects, and see the British military advisory training team at work.